

U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—1946



Sitting: L. to R.—Brig. G. A. R. Spain; Brig. C. H. Cooper, O.B.E.; H. Greenfield, C.S.I., C.I.E.; Col. R. C. Morris, M.L.A. (Central); G. A. Rainey (Chairman, Indian Tea Association); H. C. Boyd; P. J. Griffiths, C.I.E. (Leader of the European Group in the Central Assembly and Political Adviser to the Indian Tea Association), Calcutta; The Hon'ble Lady Nye (Wife of H. E. the Governor of Madras); F. H. Farmer (President); A. V. Thomas; F. G. Wallace; H. Gerry; F. W. Winterbotham; K. Srinivasan and A. L. Hill.

Standing: Middle Row—L. to R.—L. E. Mitchell (Secretary and Accountant); D. M. McIntyre; K. N. Anantasivan; V. O. Abraham; J. N. Marsh; E. J. C. Hill; C. J. Madden, O.B.E.; W. F. Inman; C. I. J. Humphreys; P. E. D. Cameron; R. W. M. Hay; J. S. Bruce; G. R. Simpson; C. H. S. London; N. A. Wilks; P. G. Krishna Iyer; P. K. Nair; P. S. Subramaniam (Assistant Secretary) and P. V. Cherian.

Standing: Top Row—L. to R.—A. G. MacGregor; V. M. Asirvatham Nadar; N. B. Athrey; F. C. Mann; S. A. Minkley; C. Vernede; W. W. Kilgour; C. E. Wootton; K. W. H. Adlam; G. Q. Archard; B. H. Whitehorn; H. Browne and K. N. Lingiah.

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YEAR BOOK

OF THE

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA



FOR THE YEAR 1945-1946



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OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

(as on 1st December 1946)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1946-47

<i>President</i>	... Mr. F. G. WALLACE
<i>Ex-President</i>	... Mr. F. H. FARMER
<i>Tea Section Member</i>	... Mr. H. C. BOYD
<i>Coffee Section Member</i>	... Mr. A. L. HILL
<i>Rubber Section Member</i>	... Mr. H. R. CARSON PARKER
<i>Legislative Members</i>	... MESSRS. R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A., AND H. GERRY, M.L.A. (CO-OPTED)

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MR. P. V. CHERIAN		

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MR. G. R. SIMPSON
MR. D. C. KOTHARI
MR. R. UNWIN (*Observer on behalf of the Labour Department Control Committee*)

LABOUR DEPARTMENT CONTROL

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MR. G. STEVENS
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Director, Labour Department—MR. R. UNWIN

Tea Scientific Officer—MR. J. D. MANNING, B.SC.

Bankers—IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA, MADRAS; NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LTD., MADRAS;
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Auditors—MESSRS. FRASER & ROSS, MADRAS

Solicitors—MESSRS. KING & PARTRIDGE, MADRAS

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	{ MR. G. K. MARTIN	1932-34	MR. R. FOWKE
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1900-04	...	HON. MR. G. L. ACWORTH
1904-08	...	HON. MR. H. P. HODGSON
1908-09	...	HON. MR. C. E. ABBOTT
1909-12	...	HON. MR. J. G. HAMILTON
1912-19	...	HON. SIR FAIRLESS BARBER
1919-22	...	MR. J. A. RICHARDSON, M.L.C.
1922-25	...	MR. C. R. T. CONGREVE, M.L.C.
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1929-30	...	MR. F. E. JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.C.
1931	...	MR. H. WADDINGTON, M.L.C.
1931-32	...	MR. F. E. JAMES, O.B.E., M.L.C.
1932-34	...	MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY, M.L.C.
1934	...	LT.-COL. C. H. BROCK, O.B.E., V.D., M.L.C.
1935-37	...	MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY, M.L.C.
1937-38	...	MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY, O.B.E., M.L.A.
1938	...	LT.-COL. C. H. BROCK, O.B.E., V.D., M.L.A.
1939-41	...	MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY, O.B.E., M.L.A.
1946	...	MR. H. GERRY, M.L.A.



U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at Coonoor, on Thursday, 28th March 1946, commencing at 3.00 p.m.

*Present :—*MESSRS. F. H. FARMER, (President), J. R. N. PRYDE, J. L. H. WILLIAMS, H. B. MACPHERSON W/CDR. J. H. SPROTT, (Members), W. W. MAYNE, (Secretary), and L. E. MITCHELL, (Secretary-designate).

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AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. J. E. SAMPSON.
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CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
MUNDAKAYAM, *per* Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
MYSORE, *per* Mr. S. H. Dennis.

FIRM MEMBERS

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.

VISITORS

DR. G. C. RAMSAY AND MR. R. UNWIN.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—President of the Association, presided.

At the request of the President, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The President.—Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in welcoming Dr. Ramsay (*Applause*). I now request him to say a few words on malaria control.

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—As this is the last occasion on which I shall be attending the Annual General Meeting of the U.P.A.S.I., I welcome this opportunity of saying a few words. I will confine my remarks to-day mainly to recent advances in anti-malaria work.

The recent advances are chiefly concerned with the introduction of new insecticides—DDT and “GAMMEXANE”. These insecticides are also valuable larvicides. The new drug “PALUDRINE” is also likely to become a great asset in the prevention and treatment of malaria.

Practically all the field experimental work with DDT has been done by the Allied Armies. As far as the India Branch of the Ross Institute is concerned, we were unable during the War to obtain sufficient DDT to carry out experiments on which data could be based to make recommendations for the benefit of industries. My contact, however, with the work carried out by the Army Authorities clearly demonstrated to me that there were very definite limitations to their methods if applied to industrial conditions. DDT when used as an insecticide has mainly been dissolved in various grades of kerosene oil. Kerosene is a valuable illuminant and great care would have to be taken to prevent loss by theft. There are definite increased fire risks when the walls and roofs of labourers' houses become saturated with kerosene, but the greatest snag when an oily solution of DDT is applied to the mud walls of labourers' huts is that the oil penetrates the walls taking with it most of the DDT, and leaving very little residual DDT on the surface. The result is that the insecticidal effect is very little indeed, and the residual effects appear to last only about a week or so. The application of DDT in oil does not appear to me to be a practical proposition under industrial conditions. Again DDT and the new insecticide “GAMMEXANE” cannot be applied to walls which have recently been white-washed with lime, as alkalis decompose DDT and “GAMMEXANE”. We shall have to find something better than oily solutions of DDT. At the present moment firms which are manufacturing DDT have recognised the limitations of DDT dissolved in oils, and are now busily engaged in making preparations which, they hope, will be easy to apply and which will have a more prolonged effect.

A few formulations of DDT which can be mixed with water and applied as a spray is being offered by local distributors as a highly efficient insecticide. Although Messrs. Heberlein & Co., (Agencies) Ltd., Bombay, the Sole Agents for DDT products in India, suggested to me that they would be pleased if the Ross Institute Organisation would carry out experiments with their new DDT formulations, I regret our research centres have not so far received any samples to enable us to submit their new products to critical tests.

During the past three months I have been carrying out some experiments with "GAMMEXANE" smoke pellets. These have given excellent results in well constructed dwellings. All insects are destroyed by the smoke but I am unable to give definite data on the residual effects of the smoke. These appear to extend to a period of three weeks or so in rooms where an initial high concentration of smoke is obtained, but much more work will have to be done before we can come to any definite conclusions. One of the great advantages of using "GAMMEXANE" smoke pellets is the simplicity of applying this method, but again we encounter snags. Very few labourers' houses on estates or houses in Indian villages are sufficiently air-tight to obtain the maximum benefits of the smoke. The smoke rises vertically, penetrates through the sungrass roofs, through the eaves and through all other possible outlets. It is obvious in a housing policy for tea estates that houses should be so constructed that insecticides can be readily applied to the walls and roofs. The houses should also be made sufficiently air-tight so that all insects within the house can be destroyed by "GAMMEXANE" smoke, and also obtain the benefit of the residual smoke deposited on the walls and roof.

Not only are these insecticides—DDT and "GAMMEXANE"—of the utmost value to us in the destruction of dangerous mosquitoes, but they are also of great value in destroying such pests as sand-flies which transmit kala-azar, eye-flies which carry conjunctivitis, and house-flies which can transmit the dysenteries, cholera, typhoid and other bowel diseases.

I have had no experience whatever of the new drug "PALUDRINE" but according to the recent researches of Dr. Hamilton Fairley, it is a *perfect prophylactic and a complete cure* in malignant malaria and a *partial prophylactic and an incomplete immediate cure* in so called benign-tertian malaria. As over seventy per cent of the malaria infections contracted in the tea districts of North East India is caused by the parasite of malignant malaria "PALUDRINE" should prevent much sickness and loss of life. The problem differs in the tea districts in South India as the incidence of benign-tertian malaria there is very much higher than the incidence of malignant malaria. But if a tablet of "PALUDRINE" a week is going to suppress frank attacks of fever it is probable that estates will be able to carry out routine work with greatly reduced labour forces. So far I have not seen any publications on the value of "PALUDRINE" in quartan malaria infections, but this is of minor importance to us as quartan malaria is relatively rare on tea estates in India. Doubtless the effects of "PALUDRINE" will also be studied on other protozoal diseases such as kala-azar. The benefits obtained in kala-azar by pentavalent antimony compounds have been remarkable but a better drug is still required as many cases fail to respond to treatment. There has always been a tendency to boost the benefits of new drugs. The reasons are obvious from the commercial point of view but sooner or later the benefits and limitations are duly assessed by clinical experience. It is to be hoped that all that is claimed for "PALUDRINE" will in time be confirmed but I would strongly advise that the policy of prevention of diseases be continually pursued. Prevention is, in the long run, not only better but cheaper than cure. Good food, good water supplies and good housing are fundamental to good health. Malaria is public Enemy No. 1 on tea estates. The prevention of malaria by cheap naturalistic measures such as shading drains with hedges and flushing streams by sluicing methods has done much to reduce the incidence of malaria where these measures have been efficiently carried out. It is only commonsense to continue with proved cheap efficient measures of prevention.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much indeed for asking me to say a few words at this meeting (*Applause*).

The President.—Has any member any questions to ask of Dr. Ramsay?

Mr. H. B. Macpherson.—Can you tell us whether Paludrine is available now and if so what is the price?

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—I am afraid Paludrine will not be available commercially for some considerable time.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—For how long is it necessary to take this drug—is it in tablet form and how should it be issued to labour?

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—The dose is one tablet. It is a very small tablet—per week which could be issued at a weekly pay day.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Are there any ill effects?

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—I gather that so far no ill effects have been observed.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Will these insecticides have any effect on rats?

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—I cannot say, but GAMMEXANE destroys chicken flies, and other insects. We do not know about rats, mice, etc.

The President.—Any more questions? Gentlemen, I must thank Dr. Ramsay for his very interesting address. This is the last occasion on which he is visiting us in the capacity of Principal of the India Branch of the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene, Calcutta, and I place on record the appreciation of this Association of the work that he has done on our behalf. That our anti-malarial work has been most effective is largely due to the guidance and advice we have received from the Ross Institute who have aided us considerably in this work. We have some sub-stations which are working efficiently and I think the Association can look with pride on the low level of malaria incidence in the various districts. In thanking Dr. Ramsay for all that he has done to bring us in this condition I would like to say that we wish him happy years in retirement and if he ever returns to India he will always be very welcome down here in South India (*Applause*).

Dr. G. C. Ramsay.—Thank you.

The President.—The next item on the Agenda is to confirm the minutes of the last meeting. I am afraid these minutes have not been in your hands but a substantial account was recorded in the *Planters' Chronicle*. You will have heard at the Tea and Coffee Sections the reasons for the delay. So I won't touch on that. Have I your permission to sign the minutes?

Permission was accorded and the minutes were signed.

REVISION OF U.P.A.S.I. RULES

The President.—The next item is revision of U.P.A.S.I. Rules. All alterations or amendments must be dealt with by a poll and cannot be dealt with by a show of hands. The intention of the first alteration is to ensure that, if the immediate past President is not available, the vacancy on the Committee so created can be filled by another member of comparable experience. The second resolution is consequential to the first.

Mr. L. E. Mitchell (*Secretary-Denignate*).—If there is unanimous approval no poll need be taken.

The President.—

1. Add the following new para to Rule 28 :—
 “(f) Any vacancy caused by the immediate past President not being available may be filled by a former member of the executive committee, elected by the executive.”

2. In para (e) of Rule 28 substitute :—

“(a) (iv) “In place of” (a) (iii) “and” (a) (i) and (iii) “in place of” (a) (i) and (ii)”.

The President.—Is there any member who is against the incorporation of these alterations. *The meeting unanimously approved the revision.*

The President.—The other alterations are put forward as a result of suggestions made by the Kanan Devans Planters' Association, to regularise proceedings at meetings. The resolutions read as follows :—

3. To Rule 3—Definitions—add the following :—

(f) “Special business” shall mean any business to be considered at a general meeting of the Association or of a product section other than the normal recurring business of annual general and budget meetings.

(g) “Urgent Propositions” shall mean a proposition upon any special business of urgent importance which is not specified in the notice convening a meeting under these rules.

4. In Rule 47 delete the full stop at the end of the Rule and add the following :—

“; and except in the case of an ‘urgent proposition’ submitted to the Secretary and approved as an urgent proposition by a majority of members of the appropriate Product Committee, no proposition shall be made upon any subject not specified in such notice.

No special business shall be included in a notice under this Rule unless it is specified in a members' requisition for the Meeting, in a Members' notice of motion given to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the meeting, or unless it has been ordered by the Product Committee to be so included.”

5. In Rule 65 delete the full stop at the end of the Rule and add the following :—

“; and except in the case of an ‘Urgent Proposition’ submitted to the Secretary and approved as an urgent proposition by a majority of Members of the Executive Committee, no proposition shall be made upon any subject not specified in such notice.

No special business shall be included in a notice under this Rule unless it is specified in a members' requisition for the Meeting, in a Members' notice of motion given to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the Meeting or unless it has been ordered by the Executive Committee to be so included”.

The President.—I think the object of these alterations is fairly obvious. I would like to know if there is any opposition to these alterations? Mr. Sampson, do these alterations meet the requirements of the Kanan Devans Planters' Association.

Mr. J. E. Sampson.—Mr. Boyd is representing the K.D.P.A.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The alterations meet with our suggestions.

The President.—If there is no opposition, I will take them as carried unanimously.

The resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

The President.—The next item is to consider the Budget for the year 1st April, 1946 to 31st March 1947. This has been in your hands for the requisite period. There are no special points in the Budget except the reduction in expenditure under meetings which can be attributed to the transfer of part of the liability to the Sections concerned. Has any member any question to raise on the Budget. If not, I will move from the Chair :—

“That the Budget for the Financial year 1st April 1946—31st March 1947, as approved by this Meeting, be passed.”

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

The President.—The next item is to fix the subscription for 1946-47. The expenditure will require a small increase in the subscriptions of 3 pies per acre. Now I will move from the Chair :—

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12 (a), the following be the rates of subscriptions payable by the ordinary members of the Association for the Financial year 1st April 1946 to 31st March 1947 :—

“1. For each ordinary member, owning a total planted area of more than 100 acres, at the rate of 3 annas 3 pies per acre planted.

“2. For each ordinary member, owning a planted area of 100 acres or under at the rate of 8 annas for every completed 10 acres.”

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

U.P.A.S.I. WAR FUND

The President.—The next item on the agenda is ‘U.P.A.S.I. War Fund’. The Executive Committee consider that the time has come to wind up the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund. When this Fund was commenced it was agreed that three-fourths of the subscriptions should be disbursed to various War Funds and that one-fourth should be retained for relief of any distressed among members of the Association arising directly out of the War.

The present sum at credit of the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund is Rs. 16,412. At the moment about 20 members are contributing Rs. 230 per month. The Executive Committee recommends to the General Meeting that the Fund be wound up. Has any member any comment to make on this proposal? If not, I will now propose from the Chair :—

‘That the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund be wound up.’

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—There are one or two matters for discussion. In the first place, I should like to speak on the work of Sir Frederick James for the Association. He has resigned from the Executive Committee and he is now no longer the Madras representative on the Central Assembly. It is with regret that we had to accept his resignation from the Executive Committee as from 31st March 1946. I feel it would be the wish of this meeting to place on record the appreciation of the services which he has given to us. Sir Frederick first joined us in 1929. I think I can say without fear of disagreement that there is no member who went to Sir Frederick James for assistance on any question and failed to get from him all the assistance which he could possibly give. And I know from personal experience how useful that assistance can be. He has played a noble part as Member of the Central Assembly and in this capacity he has been of value not only to the members of this Association but also to the planting community in India. It is perhaps unnecessary to narrate the many negotiations which he has successfully piloted on our behalf. In all cases, his advice and guidance to the Association have been invaluable. The Association will not forget his services and will still need him to carry on the good work he has been doing many years ago. We wish him and Lady James happiness in the future. I propose that the following be recorded in the minutes of this meeting :—

“This Association desires to place on record its appreciation of the able services Sir Frederick James has rendered to the U.P.A.S.I. during 1929-1945. His experience and assistance over a long period have been of immeasurable value to the Association and will long be remembered. We wish Sir Frederick James and Lady James success in the future.”

The proposition was carried unanimously with acclamation.

The President.—The next matter I would like to bring up under “Any Other Business” is the matter of the food crisis in India, which is attracting so much attention throughout the world. In the first place we are indebted to Mr. R. Walker who attended a Conference with the Military authorities in Bangalore on Monday, of which a press report appeared in yesterday's papers. As a result of this Conference Mr. R. Walker obtained information that the Army had a substantial quantity of gur or jaggery for disposal and also a considerable quantity of tinned fish which is to be sold at a figure around one anna per lb. of 14 ozs. The Association, as a result of the views of a number of members, has ordered a three-ton sample load of the tinned fish and has indicated that members of the Association will probably take up to 100 tons of jaggery. If any members are interested, will they please inform the Secretary at once? The Committee suggests that the sample consignment of tinned fish should be distributed in small quantities to D.P.A.'s for inspection and if the fish proves suitable larger orders can be replaced quickly.

Mr. Walker gave details to the Executive Committee of the Conference in Bangalore and it seems to me that it is being worked on a provincial and Indian State basis. In other words, the Governments concerned were taking an active and practical interest in the additional food production which is going to be carried out. The problem of food supply is a very serious matter to estates and we must also show our desire to play our part. We do feel that all estates should take an interest in this and also encourage estate labour to take up cultivation of food crops for their own benefit on each estate. It will assist if estates will also consider the growing of food crops themselves. During the last food crisis especially in the Wynaad we know that cultivation of food crops was extensive and large areas were made to yield grains. It is hoped that every estate will take a personal interest in this matter and give all possible encouragement to their labour.

As regards Government schemes I consider that we might be able to assist if they embark on large schemes in certain plantations. Your Committee are of the opinion that we could assist them with advisory staff. There are some people who could doubtless be found return from War work and further more some estate staff would be well qualified to help an organisation and we could probably relieve them for this purpose. Well, on this food question we all know that rations had been cut down very considerably and as far as I am aware the labourers on the estate have taken the cut remarkably well. It is a severe cut on what was given to them before. They do realize, however, that the rice is not there and have accepted it. It is up to the members of the Association to assist them to meet this shortage as far as possible.

It was proposed in the Anamallais that planters should establish a canteen for their labourers. The suggestion came from the Collector. If they could provide their labourers with one good sound meal, it was stated that they could have an extra allotment of rice, which would be provided by Government. The Anamallais were very enthusiastic and set about it, but unfortunately the Commissioner of Civil Supplies came along, had a conference with the Collectors and decided that the scheme could not be introduced. That has upset them, but the idea is still prevalent and for heavy industrial labour there is now a proposal that they shall have a little extra gain if it can be given by a meal from the employers. The Government of Madras have called a conference, which is to take place next Monday, with the purpose of examining this question and seeing what can be done about it. They have further invited a representative or representatives from this Association. It is of very great interest to our members and we are making arrangements for the Association to be represented, and we shall do everything possible to see that estate labour is included, as they have been recognised as heavy manual labour. They certainly should receive all the food we can give them sufficient for their requirements.

With regard to the general food supply position, the Association has been appealed to by Mr. Dixon, the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, to assist him as far as the industry can in producing food supplies to help through the coming difficult months. I have spoken at some length on this subject but the problem is a most important one to all of us. If there are any comments with particular reference to the meeting in Madras and any other suggestion on any of the points which I have brought out, I shall be very pleased to have them.

Mr. M. R. Coghlan.—May I ask you one question? When this conference in Madras comes off, may I know whether the U.P.A.S.I. representative will deal with the British Indian point of view only or with that of U.P.A.S.I. members including the Indian States as well?

The President.—It is purely a Madras Conference, but attention of the Conference might be drawn to the fact that the States as well should render help to plantations within their jurisdiction.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—There is one point regarding the growing of food crops in the Nilgiris. It is unfortunate that in this district no other food crop is grown except potatoes. It is possible that other neighbouring districts which grow ragi or some other staple grain might well give that product for our labour. If transport arrangements are freely available we can exchange our stock of potatoes for their stock of ragi. This might be a good thing.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—I do not think there is much chance of that. All the grains, millets and rice, will be very strictly controlled. Any surplus grain grown in the Wynaad will go to the common pool and you will

not get any extra. I think if you grow controlled foods, you must do so as a contribution to the general welfare. Uncontrolled foods such as potatoes, vegetables, which are not so far controlled, will be useful for the grower. As far as the grains are concerned there is no hope of it.

Mr. H. Gerry.—There is none.

The President.—I should like to ask Mr. Mayne to say a few words on the cultivation he would recommend in the way of vegetables and grains. I am sure we should like to have his views.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Mr. President, and gentlemen, all I can do is to refer you to my report in 1943. I think I converted all the ground pretty well on that occasion. I think, generally speaking, with a few exceptions, it is hopeless for estates to try to make any contribution to cereals production. One or two estates did grow and produce substantial quantities of grains in 1943, but these estates were in very special circumstances. They were mainly in the Wynaad where there were swampy lands attached to estates which were rapidly turned into paddy fields, and results were encouraging. Elsewhere the results were generally disappointing. Moreover as Mr. Williams pointed out, the procurement system for grains means that all grain produced must come into the general pool. It cannot be used locally. I think we cannot grow grains except in very special circumstances.

Next to grains, from the energy point of view and I think that is the proper way to regard it—come root crops, potatoes, sweet potatoes and tapioca. I think a very considerable number of estates can make a contribution. The limiting factor as far as Nilgiris is concerned is labour. In other districts, the limiting factor appears to be wild animals. Where crops were grown in 1943, the loss caused by wild animals was very heavy indeed, particularly in Central Travancore. I received 24 reports of trials with root crops and out of these 19 were failures. We can, no doubt, secure assistance from Government now for the control of smaller game but the elephant still appears to be a carefully protected animal, and more important than the food supplies. The best contribution, I think estates can make, is by the organisation of vegetable production, either indirectly by the Labour or directly by the estate. It is advisable to concentrate on a few types of foodstuffs, which are known to grow well. I would suggest the growing of leguminous crops, peas and various kinds of beans. These are most nutritious and many of them can readily be dried and stored. I know it is a very difficult situation. I feel we must look at it from the broadest point of view. If we start vegetable growing or food production schemes it may mean some reduction of work on the proper business of the estate. That reduction of work will be under some sort of control, but it is quite certain that if the present level of ration continues for 5 or 6 months the labourers' output of work will go down very considerably. It has already suffered to some extent. It is likely to get worse. We may be able to check this reduction in output if we can provide some extra food. If we cannot provide extra food, I fear that our control over work output will get completely out of hand.

I was at the Food Council meeting in Madras recently and the outlook then was very grave indeed. I hope to be at the next meeting on the 4th April and I am hoping that we shall hear a little more of what the position is at present. I think the position is serious and that it would be well for us to risk some loss of work output on our main crop in order that output will not get out of control in the next 5, 6 or 7 months. I would refer you back to my report in the *Planters' Chronicle* during 1943, where I think the subject was dealt with in a comprehensive manner. I have nothing more to add to what I wrote on that occasion.

The President.—Has any member any questions to ask on this matter?

If not, we will pass on to the next item. I have had a letter from Mr. R. C. Morris, European member of the Central Assembly. He says that he is getting very few enquiries from members and that he will be very pleased to give all the information and assistance he can if members will write to him. If members have any problem, I hope they will write to Mr. Morris and accept his offer.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—What is his address?

The President.—You can get it from the U.P.A.S.I. Office.

The Secretary.—You can address him either at No. 8 Council House, New Delhi, or at 1 Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.

The President.—Gentlemen, is there any other subject under 'Any Other Business'. Before closing this meeting, I would like to say that Mr. Mayne has had a spate of farewell to-day already and it is now the time for the Association to acknowledge the services that he has given to us. His scientific work, of course, has been touched on by Mr. Sprott, Coffee Section Chairman, and we all know what invaluable work he has done in the scientific world of tea plantations and coffee plantations. He took over the Secretaryship of the Association at a very critical time in our affairs. I must say that the Association was extremely lucky to find such an able man at the moment when he was needed. (*Hear, hear, and applause.*)

He is, I think, probably the best known member of our Association. I can now pass him on as a member and his work has been of pleasure and interest in helping all of us through the *Planters' Chronicle*. If we look back, we can remember vulgar remarks being passed about it. To-day we go round and hear almost everyone saying: 'How interesting is the *Planters' Chronicle* and what a lot of information there is in it!' I think personally that he can be looked upon as a unique penman. There is no subject that he does not deal with efficiently and I can state definitely that he has made many persons sit up in quarters which are usually unaffected at all. The prestige of the Association has undoubtedly not only been maintained but it has been increased by the work of Mr. Mayne as Secretary of the Association. (*Hear, hear and applause.*) I hope you will join with me in wishing Mr. Mayne and family a very happy future and many years of it.

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Mr. President, and gentlemen, this is the third time I am rising to express my thanks to-day and it is difficult to reply adequately to the very great appreciation you have expressed in your kind remarks. But there are one or two things I should like to say on this occasion about the three years I have occupied the seat of the Secretary and something about the general relations of scientists and the plantation industry. One of the things I am happiest about as a result of the years in the Secretaryship is that I think I have convinced a lot of people that the scientist is not necessarily an impractical dreamer living in the clouds. I feel that the place of the scientist in industry, which is a matter very near to my heart, has suffered a great deal from some divergence of view and divergence of language between the scientist and the producer. If we are going to get full value from research applied to the industry, that barrier must be broken down. Some of the effort, as I have had occasion to say from time to time in the *Chronicle*, must come from the producer. I have also said in its pages, although this might be more properly addressed elsewhere, that some effort is required on the part of the scientist too. I think I have achieved something if I have impressed the Association that the scientist can be a practical man. And that the scientist can get some understanding of the special and peculiar problems of the practical producer. I hope that that will remain with the Association and assist in building a scientific service into the industry which will help to carry it through the very difficult times which are ahead of us.



The question of research and the future of the industry is bound up very closely together. Many of our labour problems and minimum wage problem can only be solved by maximum and intensive production with high yields per acre of high quality produce. In all these matters scientific work must be closely associated with production. I hope I have convinced some of you that the scientific man can be associated with problems relating to production to the benefit of this industry.

Gentlemen, my association with you has been a very happy one even during the last year or so, when the work has been at times very heavy. But I must say here that since the arrival of Mr. Mitchell I have felt much relieved. I feel quite sure that you will find Mr. Mitchell a very happy person to deal with, as I have found him during the short time he has been with us. I hope he will be with us for a long time and I feel sure that the Association has found a Secretary who will carry on the traditions and maintain the prestige of this Association, which has been built up in the past 50 years. Thank you, gentlemen. (*Loud and prolonged applause.*)

The President.—I now declare the meeting closed.

THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

Head Office Budget for 1946-47

(As adopted by Executive Committee in December, 1945)

EXPENDITURE ITEMS	Estimate 45-46 Rs. A. P.	Estimate 46-47 Rs. A. P.
ESTABLISHMENT		
Secretary's salary	10,200 0 0	18,000 0 0
" Dearness allowance	750 0 0	1,500 0 0
" Entertainment allowance	600 0 0	600 0 0
Asst. Secretary's salary	3,600 0 0	3,840 0 0
" Dearness allowance	775 0 0	850 0 0
Pension to Col. Brock	4,030 0 0	4,030 0 0
" Late Office Manager	700 0 0	1,200 0 0
Office Establishment salaries	7,174 0 0	7,000 0 0
" allowances (Dearness & Hill)	3,262 0 0	3,200 0 0
" Staff Rent allowance	693 0 0	700 0 0
Rents :—		
To Glenview Property (Office, Meeting Hall, Bungalow, Asst. Secy's Qrs. & Block C)	3,360 0 0	3,585 0 0
Office :—		
Postages & Telegrams	2,500 0 0	2,500 0 0
Printing & Stationery	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
Periodicals & Library	200 0 0	200 0 0
Telephone & Lighting	390 0 0	400 0 0
Bank Charges	150 0 0	150 0 0
Incidentals	1,500 0 0	1,000 0 0
General :—		
Meetings	9,000 0 0	6,000 0 0
Audit Fee	750 0 0	750 0 0
Medical expenses	400 0 0	400 0 0
Income Tax & Profession Tax	970 0 0	970 0 0
Glenview upkeep	1,100 0 0	1,000 0 0
Provident Fund	1,872 0 0	2,860 0 0
Furlough & Passage	720 0 0	720 0 0
Planting members' expenditure	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
Employers' Federation of S. India	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0
	58,696 0 0	65,455 0 0

INCOME	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Subscriptions from members :		
Ordinary—2,67,763 acres @ 3 as. 3 ps.	54,389 0 0	
2,453 acres @ small Owners' rate	245 0 0	
		54,634 0 0
Association members 15 @ Rs. 50		750 0 0
Firm members 28 @ Rs. 150		4,200 0 0
Interest		3,614 0 0
Sundry Receipts		472 0 0
Establishment Refunds		6,030 0 0
		69,700 0 0

Estimated excess of income over expenditure: Rs. 4,245.

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

I. THE U.P.A.S.I.

1. **Membership.**—The number of Ordinary Members as at 31st March 1946 was 345, made up of 27 Sterling Companies, 91 Rupee Companies and 227 private proprietors, the latter consisting of 95 Europeans and 132 Indians. The number of Association and Firm Members were fifteen and twenty-seven respectively.

The following table shows the area on which Ordinary Members were subscribing on that date :—

Planting Districts	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Card.	Cin.	Pep.	Total
Anamallais ...	25,716	2,575	460	5,335	369	13	34,468
Central Travancore ...	23,727	130	8	888	...	270	25,023
Coorg ...	362	16,393	1,305	314	...	105	18,484
Kanan Devans ...	33,913	719	...	...	...	...	34,632
Mundakayam ...	3,779	299	14,806	1,634	...	10	20,528
Malabar ...	478	878	23,756	782	2	72	25,968
Mysore ...	2,924	15,088	179	611	...	...	18,802
Nelliampathies ...	1,758	2,664	...	1,689	...	...	6,111
Nilgiris ...	18,362	6,334	339	347	54	...	25,436
Nilgiri-Wynaad ...	11,554	753	2	...	...	...	12,309
Shevaroyas ...	...	4,512	...	...	...	...	4,512
South Travancore ...	11,715	232	16,066	283	...	70	28,366
Wynaad ...	11,616	669	160	945	...	...	13,390
Other Districts ...	904	124	545	1,457	...	...	3,030
Total Acres ...	146,808	51,375	57,626	14,285	425	540	271,059

The total subscribing acreage increased by 8,481 acres during the year and the number of Firm Members increased by five.

2. **Executive Committee.**—The following assumed office after the close of the Annual General Meeting in August 1945:—

Mr. F. H. Farmer	... President.
Mr. J. R. N. Pryde	... Ex-President.
Mr. J. L. H. Williams	... Nominated by the Tea Section Committee.
Mr. H. B. Macpherson	.. „ by the Rubber Section Committee.
W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott	.. „ by the Coffee Section Committee.

In accordance with Rule 28 (a) (iv), the Committee co-opted Sir Frederick James and Mr. Ivor Bull as representatives of the legislatures to serve on the Committee.

With the exception of the President, none of the members were able to complete a full year of office. Mr. Williams resigned on medical grounds, and Messrs. Pryde, Macpherson and W/Cdr. Sprott resigned to take leave in the U.K. The seat vacated by Mr. Macpherson was filled by Mr. F. G. Wallace. At the time of writing this report the seats for Tea and Coffee Sections have not yet been filled. Mr. R. C. Morris was co-opted to the Committee on his being elected to the Central Legislature in the place of Sir Frederick James, who resigned his seat on the Committee on 31st March 1946. Mr. H. Gerry was also co-opted to the Committee on his election as Planting Member of the Madras Legislative Assembly.

3. **Representation on the Legislatures.**—There were no other changes in the planting members on the various legislatures apart from the Central Legislative Assembly.

4. **Meetings.**—The Executive Committee held three meetings during the year. A general meeting of the Association was held in March 1946 to adopt the Budget.

5. **Staff.**—Mr. Wilson Mayne relinquished the post of Secretary with effect from 31st March 1946. The Committee wish to record their deep appreciation of his services to the Association, especially during the period of his Secretaryship, lasting nearly three years.

The Executive Committee appointed Mr. L. E. Mitchell, formerly Chief Accountant and Trustee, Corporation of Rangoon, to the post of Secretary and Accountant of the Association and he took over from Mr. Mayne on 1st April 1946.

On 1st March 1946 Mr. N. A. Subramanian, Assistant Secretary, resigned his post. The Committee decided to postpone consideration of filling this post to its next meeting, and in the meantime to revert to the former type of organisation, and appointed Mr. P. S. Subramaniam as Office Manager with effect from 1st April 1946.

6. **Work at Head Office.**—12,276 letters were received during the year and 19,430 letters were despatched. As in the previous year the utmost economy was observed in the issue of circulars by using the

Planters' Chronicle for such purposes, but the increase in the number of letters was due to the increased service given to members in various directions.

7. **U.P.A.S.I. Rules.**—A number of minor amendments to the Rules chiefly with procedure at meetings were adopted at the General Meeting of the Association held in March 1946.

8. **Accounts 1945-46.**—The following table gives a summary of the income and expenditure of the Association and the Scientific Department:—

1st April 1945—31st March 1946	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	Budget Rs.	Actuals Rs.	Budget Rs.	Actuals Rs.
Head Office	69,700	68,846	58,696	65,541
Scientific Department	67,641	68,960	65,115	64,903
	1,37,341	1,37,806	1,23,811	1,30,444
Balances ... ..	...	...	13,530	7,362
Total	1,37,341	1,37,806	1,37,341	1,37,806

9. **Budget 1946-47.**—The following statement gives a summary of the Head Office and Scientific Department budgets for the year 1946-47 passed at the General Meetings held at the end of March 1946:—

Budget 1946-47	Income Rs.	Expenditure Rs.	BALANCE	
			Excess Rs.	Deficit Rs.
Head Office	69,700	65,455	4,245	...
Scientific Department	75,561	75,884	...	323
Total	1,45,261	1,41,339	4,245	323
Net Excess ... ..	...	...	...	3,922

10. **U.P.A.S.I. Buying Agency.**—The year continued to be a difficult one for the Buying Agency owing to the fact that many firms were still unable to give the discounts they formerly allowed in view of the operation of various price controls. There was a further reduction in subscribers owing, presumably, to the smaller benefits from membership. At the end of the year there was a surplus of Rs. 55-1-0 in the Buying Agency account, and this was transferred to the S.I.P.B. Fund in accordance with the Rules.

11. **Planters' Chronicle.**—The number of pages of advertisement during the year ended 31st March 1946 was 460, an increase of 146 pages over the previous year. The reading matter amounted to 448 pages compared with 312 in the previous year. These increases were made possible by the larger allotment of newsprint to the *Chronicle* during the year.

The share of Head Office expenditure debited to the *Chronicle* was restored to the original figure of Rs. 6,000. At the end of the year there was an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 976-5-10 and this was transferred to the *Planters' Chronicle* Fund which now has a balance at credit of Rs. 2,410-13-10.

12. **Glenview Committee of Management.**—During the year Mr. J. F. Smail resigned his membership of this Committee, on his departure to the U.K., and the Executive Committee appointed Brig. G. A. R. Spain in his place. The present members of the Committee are Brig. G. A. R. Spain, and Messrs. J. R. N. Pryde and K. J. H. Mackenzie.

13. **Allied Associations, etc.**—Close touch was maintained with the South Indian Association in London by cable and air mail. The relations with it and all other Associations, including the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, and the Association of Planters of Travancore, have continued to be cordial and helpful in every way.

II. LEGISLATION, ETC.

(A) CENTRAL

14. The Budget Session of the Central Legislative Assembly opened on 21st January 1946 and closed on 18th April. A general election took place after the last session, and Mr. R. C. Morris of Honnametti Estate was elected in the place of Sir Frederick James from the Madras Constituency. The Executive Committee take this opportunity of placing on record their deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Association by Sir Frederick James throughout the period of his membership of the Assembly.

Mr. Morris has kindly promised to take up in New Delhi questions on behalf of members who may have any difficulties which his contacts in New Delhi may enable him to straighten out.

Legislation passed and Bills referred to during the Budget Session of the Central Assembly included a considerable number of matters affecting labour. Members were kept informed of these matters by circular and the *Planters' Chronicle*.

15. **Workmen's Compensation Act, 1946.**—This Act raised the maximum wage of a person entitled to compensation from Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 per month, since dearness allowances had placed a number of workers outside the scope of the Act.

16. **Factories Amendment Act, 1946.**—The Select Committee to whom the Bill was referred went much farther than the Member of Labour had proposed and recommended a reduction of weekly working hours in respect of seasonal factories from 60 hours to 50 hours with maximum daily hours at 9 hours and with overtime at the rate of twice the ordinary rate of pay for work exceeding 50 hours per week or 9 hours per day. The Select Committee's recommendations were adopted.

17. **Standing Orders Bill.**—The Labour Member introduced a Bill requiring employers in industrial establishments to formally define conditions of employment under them. It sought to compel various industries, including plantations, to frame draft 'Standing Orders' and to submit them to a 'Certifying Officer' for certification, such 'Orders' to cover conditions of recruitment, discharge, disciplinary action, holidays, leave, etc.

18. **Minimum Wages Bill.**—This Bill introduced by the Labour Member, is designed to provide for the fixation by Provincial Governments of minimum wages in certain employments. Among the employments specified in the Schedule are employments in Cinchona, Rubber, Tea or Coffee estates. The Bill provides for the appointment, by the Provincial Governments, of Advisory Boards and Committees to enquire into and report on conditions prevailing in any scheduled employment. Provincial Governments are also empowered to authorise the payment of minimum wages either wholly in cash or partly in kind. Payments for overtime work in excess of eight hours per day are fixed at one-eighth of the daily rate for each hour of overtime or part of an hour.

19. Consideration of the above Bills had not concluded before the close of the Budget Session of the Assembly and it is expected that the Bills will be re-submitted at the July Session. The Committee has made a number of representations on the proposals many of which are designed for industrial labour and are not suited to plantation conditions and will continue to take timely action when the Bills are reintroduced.

20. **The Pharmacy Bill, 1946.**—This was introduced by Government with the object of regulating the profession of pharmacy by prescribing a minimum standard of professional education and the registration of persons practising the profession of pharmacy. It also prohibits any person dispensing medicine otherwise than by or under the direct and personal supervision of a registered pharmacist. Clause 31 of this Bill may affect present compounders on estates if they have not been practising for five years and also lack the prescribed minimum educational standards. The Bill has been circulated for eliciting opinion.

21. **Trade Union (Amendment) Bill.**—This Bill, introduced by the Labour Member, provides for compulsory recognition of registered representative Unions, and specifies certain acts as unfair practices on the part of recognised trade unions and on the part of employers.

(B) PROVINCIAL

22. **Provincial Legislatures.**—During the year, elections to the Madras Assembly and Council took place and Mr. H. Gerry was elected to the planting seat in the Assembly. No reports were received from representatives in legislatures in Indian States and Coorg.

23. **Agricultural Income-tax Bill.**—Reference was made in last year's Report to the Association's Memorandum submitted to the Government of Madras criticising some of the provisions of this Bill and asking for modifications. Soon after, it was learned that in deference to public opinion the Government had decided not to proceed with the Bill. However it has now been reported that Government propose to take up this Bill again for consideration.

24. **Payment of Wages Act.**—In November 1945, the Chief Inspector of Factories, Madras, sent out a circular to individual estates asking for their views on the proposal to extend the provisions of this Act to plantations. The Association strongly protested against this procedure and impressed upon Government that such enquiries should properly be addressed to the Association which represented the vast majority of employers. A reply was received to the effect that Government were considering the Association's views.

Earlier, the U.P.A.S.I. had submitted a note to the Government stating that it was not in favour of extending the provisions of this Act to non-factory labour on plantations. In its view, the Act was designed for application to industrial labour, whereas plantation labour was agricultural, working under conditions entirely different from those of industrial labour.

Estates generally in the Madras Presidency have come in for increasing attention from officers and Panchayats concerned with the administration of the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras Public Health Act. A number of Panchayat Boards have levied a house tax on all estate buildings liable to the tax, but estates and estates labour generally derive little or no benefit from these contributions to local government funds. Attempts have been made in one district to impose urban tenements standards for estate labour lines but these have so far been resisted on the ground that Government intends to prescribe suitable standards for industrial and plantation labour housing.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

25. **Board of Communications, Madras.**—No meeting of this Board was held during the year.

26. **South Indian Railway Advisory Committee.**—Mr. R. Unwin, Director, U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department, continued to represent the Association on this Committee. Very little of importance to the Association was discussed during the year. There was a general improvement in coach services, particularly on the metre gauge section, as a result of the partial return of coaches and locomotives loaned to the Defence Department.

27. **Transport Vehicles.**—A considerable volume of correspondence was exchanged between the Association and the Provincial Motor Transport Controller in regard to members' requests for lorries, petrol, tyres, batteries, etc. In January 1946 the Association was advised that a number of surplus army transport vehicles were likely to be released for civilian use, and some new controlled vehicles were also expected. A



Consolidated list of members' requirements was supplied to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller, but on April the Controller notified the Association that the War Transport Department had decided that surplus army vehicles could be released only for Government departments. The vehicles allotted to the Controller for civilian purposes were therefore restricted to new controlled vehicles. There are at last signs that some members will soon be able to satisfy their urgent requirements through this source.

IV. SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

28. Scientific Department.—Mr. W. Wilson Mayne continued to be in charge of the two sections of the U.P.A.S.I. Scientific Department. There were no changes in the staff during the year. Mr. Mayne visited Devarshola, Sidapur and Balehonnur on several occasions. Coffee research work has recently passed from the U.P.A.S.I. to the Indian Coffee Board, and the cost of the U.P.A.S.I. Coffee Scientific Section is being met by the Board with effect from 1st June 1946.

29. Government Grant for Scientific Research.—The annual grant of Rs. 16,500 from the Government of Madras for tea and coffee research was continued during the year. Under the conditions prescribed for payment of this grant, the share for coffee research is not expected to be received from Government this year as a result of the Indian Coffee Board taking over research work from U.P.A.S.I.

30. Plantation Research.—During the year the Indian Tea Association suggested that a joint UPASI/ITA seat should be sought on the National Research Council which was proposed to be set up by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. Since, however, it seemed that the proposed Council would not be concerned with agricultural research, but only industrial, and it has been the policy of the U.P.A.S.I. to regard plantations as coming within the scope of agriculture, it was decided not to ask for representation on the Council.

31. Sulphate of Ammonia.—The Association was able to secure a total allotment of 4,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia for estates in South India during the year. As regards indigenous manures, as in previous years, the Association was given an allotment of 700 tons of groundnut cake and bonemeal for export to Mysore and Coorg.

32. Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.—During the year Mr. P. H. Carpenter represented the Association jointly with the Indian Tea Association on the Advisory Board of this body until his retirement, when Mr. C. J. Harrison, Director, Tocklai Experimental Station, was nominated to that seat as the joint representative of the two associations.

Mr. Pryde continued to occupy the seat for permanent crops on the Advisory Council of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. As the tenure of his seat is to expire in 1946, it was decided to nominate Mr. J. D. Manning, Tea Scientific Officer, for this seat and to request the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to keep the seat open for Mr. Manning pending his return to India in August next.

V. WAR AND POST-WAR MEASURES

33. National Service Advisory Committee.—Mr. J. R. N. Pryde continued to be a co-opted member of the Madras District Advisory Committee, and acted throughout the year on behalf of the U.P.A.S.I. President who is the official representative of the Association on the Committee. The work of this Committee continued to increase very considerably in connection with the allocation of leave passages and releases of men. The general position regarding releases, as notified by the Defence Department to the National Service Advisory Committee from time to time was published in the *Chronicle*. In July 1946 Mr. Pryde tendered resignation of his seat on the Advisory Committee in view of his impending departure to the United Kingdom.

34. U.P.A.S.I. War Fund.—The Fund was closed on 31st March 1946, its purpose having been served. A further sum of Rs. 3,861, representing 75 per cent of the collections, was remitted to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund during the year. The balance 25 per cent was, in accordance with the Rules, paid into the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund which, on 31st March 1946, amounted to Rs. 17,062-3-9. Of the amount remitted to the Viceroy's Fund during the year, a sum of Rs. 750 was ear-marked for the maintenance of one Polish refugee child for a year, as in the previous year.

On a request received from St. Dunstan's, it was resolved to pay them the balance of the U.P.A.S.I. War Fund after making provision for any planters or their dependents in need of assistance from the Fund.

35. Disposal of Surplus Government Stores.—Steps were taken during the year to supply the Disposals Directorate, through Mr. R. C. Morris, with particulars of surplus stores required by estates in South India. The Secretary also interviewed the Disposal authorities in Madras. The position regarding availability of surplus Government stores is, however, still far from clear.

VI. LABOUR, HEALTH AND WELFARE

36. U.P.A.S.I. Labour Advisory Committee.—The following gentlemen served on the Committee during the year:—Messrs. R. Walker, J. L. H. Williams, Ivor Bull, F. J. B. Diaper, M. R. Coghlan, D. C. Kothari and Sir Frederick James.

During the year, Messrs. Coghlan and Diaper resigned and their places were filled by Messrs. C. J. Madden and G. R. Simpson respectively. Later Messrs. Walker, Williams and Sir Frederick James also resigned and Messrs. J. E. Sampson, H. Gerry, and C. L. J. Humphreys were appointed to the Committee. The Committee held 3 meetings during the year.

37. Labour Rates and Allowances.—These were constantly reviewed by the Committee. As regards Labour Dearness Allowance, at the meeting held on 26th March 1946, it was decided to recommend that the existing allowances of 1 anna per adult and 6 pies for working child be raised by 50 per cent.

38. **Labour Investigation Committee.**—The Rege Committee on plantation labour completed its Report during the year, and it was published after considerable delay. It is, of course, difficult to deal with the findings of the Rege Committee within the narrow compass of this Report, but from a preliminary study of the Committee's Report there is little doubt that some of the criticisms and deductions contained therein in connection with conditions of plantation labour in South India cannot go unchallenged. The Report will be considered by the Executive Committee when copies are made available to the Association.

39. **Labour Statistics.**—In April 1946, the Government of India forwarded a copy of the Report by Dr. N. S. R. Sastry, Statistician of the Labour Department, and asked for the Association's views on the proposed statistics suggested by Mr. Sastry. After circulation among District Planters' Associations, a reply was sent to the Government stating that the statistics called for were unnecessarily voluminous and complicated, and that in order to ensure accuracy they should be restricted, in the initial stage, to bare essentials. Further, the collection of statistics in the manner and to the extent proposed could not be achieved without considerable expenditure, which would require a corresponding increase in the ceiling prices of coffee and rubber fixed by Government after a detailed examination of costs.

A regrettable feature of this and other recent proposals by Government to collect statistics is that only one copy of extremely voluminous and complicated returns is made available to the Association, so that unless the Association itself undertakes the labour and expense of reproducing them members of the planting industry in South India have little or no opportunity of criticising the proposals.

40. **Estate Staffs : Dearness Allowance.**—On the advice of the Labour Advisory Committee, the Executive Committee recommended the raising of the ceiling for staff dearness allowance from 210 to 225 points with effect from 1st December 1945.

41. **U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department.**—The Department continued to be under the Directorship of Mr. R. Unwin. As usual, the Control Committee is issuing its own report on the working of the Labour Department. With a view to closer co-operation between the Labour Advisory Committee and the Labour Department, the Chairman of the Control Committee was appointed as an additional member of the Labour Advisory Committee and the Director of the Labour Department has been invited to attend all meetings of this Committee and will receive copies of all papers circulated to the Committee.

42. **Labour Shortages.**—The Labour supply position seemed to ease slightly on several estates, though generally speaking, the position continued to be difficult throughout South India.

VII. GENERAL

43. **Export Advisory Council.**—The President of the U.P.A.S.I. continued to be the joint representative of the U.P.A.S.I. and the Indian Tea Association on the Export Advisory Council. During the year a proposal arose for the revision of the constitution of the Council, and U.P.A.S.I. suggested that the present representation of plantation crops should be enlarged by appointing one member each from the Indian Tea Association and the U.P.A.S.I., as the former is concerned only with tea exports whereas the latter is concerned with exports of rubber, coffee, cardamoms and pepper.

44. **Provincial Food Council.**—The Council was dissolved in June 1946 and is being replaced by District, Taluk and Village Committees.

The Association has asked Government to grant the Association some representation on the new bodies but no reply has yet been received.

45. **Rice and Food Supplies.**—The question of food supplies for Estate labour became increasingly difficult during the year, and is one of the major problems of estate managers. The difficulties of procuring adequate supplementary food supplies led to a number of proposals for meeting the difficulty by compensatory cash payments to labour. The Labour Advisory and Executive Committees, after carefully considering the position in March, recommended that all estates should accept responsibility for seeing that their labour forces were adequately fed, if necessary by procuring uncontrolled food supplies, even although these might be more costly. The recommendation was based on two important considerations: first maintenance of output and second, the bearing by the employer of the increased cost of basic diet was a generally accepted bargain with estate labour as part of the increased cost of living allowance, the balance being met by the dear provision allowance in cash.

In June 1946 Government agreed to grant to estates an additional ration of 6 ozs. of controlled supplementary food grains per head per day for labour on Estates which established workers' canteens. A number of estates have already taken advantage of this and interest in this feature is growing steadily.

In March 1946 Mr. R. Walker attended on behalf of the Association a Conference of the Southern Army and representatives of Provincial and State Governments convened for the purpose of exploring how the Army could assist the civil population in meeting the food shortage. This new contact has proved an extremely useful one and the Committee desire to record their appreciation of the help offered and given by the Southern Army Command in affording members timely opportunity to tender for Army surplus food supplies.

46. **Quinine Supplies.**—The Association continued to arrange for the equitable distribution of quinine and quinine substitutes for estates in South India in co-operation with the Superintendent, Central Jail, Coimbatore, the Indian Rubber Production Board and the Association Planters of Travancore. Substantial quantities of quinine substitutes were released during the year for estate use.

47. **Income-tax Sub-Committee.**—The Committee owes a debt of gratitude to Messrs. W. Grant, J. B. Soutar and J. N. Marsh who constituted the Income-tax Sub-Committee. In May 1946 Mr. Grant resigned from the Committee owing to his impending departure to the U. K. and Messrs. N. A. Wilks and L. B. Gillies have kindly agreed to serve.



48. **Future of the Ross Institute.**—At the end of the year, Dr. Ramsay retired from the Ross Institute. The Committee places on record its warm appreciation of Dr. Ramsay's services to the plantation industry of South India. During his farewell visit to the U.P.A.S.I. in March 1946, Dr. Ramsay explained the position regarding the future of the Ross Institute and the proposal made in North India that no action in the matter should be taken until Dr. Macdonald's arrival in India during the next cold weather. The U.P.A.S.I. Executive Committee agreed with this view.

OBITUARY

The Executive Committee regret to record the following further deaths during the past year:—

CARSON PARKER, J. Died at Torquay on 23rd October, 1945, aged 68. Mr. Carson Parker joined Messrs. Finlay Muir after the Boer War. He left this firm to open up Sittar Estate for the Ranni Travancore Rubber Company and was one of the pioneer rubber planters in South India. From 1910 to 1914 he worked in the Wynaad for one of Messrs. Harrison's Crosfield's companies and during that period represented the U.P.A.S.I. on the Indian Tea Cess Committee. He left South India in 1914, served in the Great War, and returned to Ceylon, where he spent the remainder of his planting life. His death followed shortly after retirement.

MOSES, ISAAC. Died at Nagercoil on 7th December, aged 60. Mr. Moses began as a Labour Agent, Labour Department, U.P.A.S.I., and at the time of his death was Chief Agent, Nagercoil. He served the Department for 31 years.

STRACHAN, G. R. Died at Munnar on 28th February, 1946, aged 60. Mr. Strachan spent his planting life with Messrs. James Finlay's estates in the High Range and retired just before the war, but again returned to active work. Mr. Strachan played a considerable part in the affairs of the Association, having attended the General Meetings of 1928, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1935, 1936 and 1937 as a representative of the Kanan Devan Planters' Association. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Association in 1928, 1929 and 1937.

WEDDERSPOON, JOHN. Died at Peermade on 12th March, 1946, aged about 57. Mr. Wedderspoon has planted on the Southern India Tea Estates for over 30 years.

HAWKINS, J. S. Died in England on 12th March, 1946. Mr. Hawkins formerly planted in the High Range and retired about 12 years ago. During his service with Messrs. James Finlay, he took a keen interest in the U.P.A.S.I. Sports Club.

DANVERS DAVY, G. H. Died at Kotagiri on 14th April, 1946, aged 75. Mr. Danvers Davy was for some time Manager of Eldorado Group, Mundakayam.

REED, W. H. Died at Bangalore on 15th June, 1946, aged 72 years. Mr. Reed was for a number of years Manager of Mavinkere Estate belonging to Messrs. Bhadra Valley Estates Ltd.

SAMPSON, J. E. Died at Madras after an operation on 20th July, 1946. Aged 53 years Mr. Sampson came out to the High Range in 1912, but after a short period there he was transferred to the Anamallais, where he worked on Valparai and Velonie Estates. Subsequently he opened the Pachaimallai Estate, and continued as its Manager until he returned to the High Range as Manager of the Thenmallai Estate. During the time he was in the Anamallais, he was Honorary Secretary of the A.P.A. for several years, he was also Chairman of the K.D.P.A. and for three years, 1940-41—1942-43 was Chairman of the Tea Section Committee and member of the Executive Committee of the U.P.A.S.I. In 1939 he was appointed Assistant General Manager of Messrs. James Finlay's South India Group of Estates, and on 1st March 1946 became General Manager. All his service in India had been with M/s James, Finlay & Co. Ltd. His death will be a great loss not only to his Company but to the planting community in general and he has left a gap that it will not be easy to fill.

VINCENT, J. R. Died at Tirupattur, Ramnad District, on 5th March, 1946, in his 70th year. Mr. J. R. Vincent came out to the High Range in March 1896 and remained there until 1900, when he left for the Anamallais, where along with Messrs. Congreve, Marsh and Windle, he planted tea. In 1908 he came to Mundakayam and worked for the Mundakayam Valley Rubber Company until 1926. During 1926 and 1927 he went into the Rajagiri floatation with Mr. Murphy, and at about the same time he acquired the Downton Cardamom Estate. He planted up the Nenmeny Rubber Estate in 1911, which he subsequently sold. He was Honorary Secretary of the Mundakayam Planters' Association for the years 1910 and 1911, and Chairman for 1912 and 1920. He was for a time a Member of the Sri Mulam Assembly and has instituted two scholarships of higher botanical studies in the Travancore University. Mr. Vincent has left behind a permanent mark on the planting industry and social life of Mundakayam.

F. H. FARMER	President
IVOR BULL	
R. C. MORRIS	Members
H. GERRY	
F. G. WALLACE	



UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

CSL

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 1946—Excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities—(concluded)

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Brought forward ...	...			6,135	2	9	Brought forward ...	...			66,259	8	0
Departmental Funds—(cont.)													
TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION FUND—													
As per last Balance Sheet ...	29,130	7	1				Book Debts—						
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ...	1,352	5	1				Subscription arrears considered good ...	...			313	8	9
				30,482	12	2	Sundry Debtors considered good. <i>Planters' Chronicle</i> —Sundry Debtors considered good ...	...			2,399	10	0
COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION FUND—													
As per last Balance Sheet ...	9,782	6	10					...			219	11	2
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ...	2,704	13	9				Advances—						
				12,487	4	7	Electricity Deposits ...	...			126	7	0
FURLOUGH AND PASSAGE FUND—													
As per last Balance Sheet ...	13,791	4	0				Income-tax for 1946-47 assessment ...	...			1,529	4	0
Add Interest during the year...	378	0	0				Medical Expenses advance to late Office Manager ...	...			300	0	0
Contributions during the year.	1,960	0	0				Advance on account of Planting Directory ...	...			334	6	0
				16,129	4	0	Election deposit for Planting Member ...	...			50	0	0
REPRESENTATION FUND (INDIAN STATES AND COORG)—													
As per last Balance Sheet ...	4,455	0	3				Prepaid Expenses—Telephone Rent ...	...			192	12	0
Less Withdrawn during the year ...	36	1	6				Scientific Department—						
				4,418	14	9	Advance for supply of foodgrains to labour ...	...			20	0	0
EUROPEAN STAFF MEDICAL FUND—													
As per last Balance Sheet ...	509	1	0				Library deposit ...	...			50	0	0
Add Amount allotted from Head Office ...	200	0	0										
				709	1	0	Stock on hand—						
U.P.A.S.I. WAR FUND—													
RS A P							Mepacrine at Head Office ...	...			1,608	12	0
As per last Balance Sheet ...	16,846	4	9				Foodgrains at Tea Expt. Station.	...			50	11	10
Less Remitted to Viceroy's War Fund ...	1,533	6	0										
				15,312	14	9							
Additions during the year ...	1,287	0	0										
Add Interest during the year ...	462	5	0										
				17,062	3	9							



Planters' Chronicle				Investments—			
FUND—							
As per last Balance Sheet ...	1,434	8	0	Rs. 1,04,300—3% 1951-54 Loan.	...	1,03,159	3 0
Add Excess of Income over				Rs. 20,000—3% 1949-52 Defence	...		
Expenditure during the year.	976	5	10	Loan ...	...	20,000	0 0
			2,410 13 10	Rs. 20,000—3% 1946 Defence	...		
			89,835 8 10	Loan ...	...	20,000	0 0
				Rs. 70,800—3% 1963-65 Loan ...	...	69,836	10 0
Advance Payments—				Interest Accrued ...	...		2,12,995 13 0
HEAD OFFICE—							738 14 0
1946-47 subscriptions received			19 5 0	Cash and other Balances—			
in advance ...	...			Cash with National Bank of			
<i>Planters' Chronicle—</i>				India, Ltd., Madras, on Current			
1946-47 Payments received in			7,497 3 4	Account ...	...	31,607	15 9
advance ...	...			Cash with Imperial Bank of			
BUYING AGENCY—				India, Madras, on Current			
1946-47 Subscriptions received			418 11 0	Accounts ...	...	15,890	0 2
in advance ...	...			Cash with Imperial Bank of			
			7,935 3 4	India, Madras, on U.P.A.S.I.			
				War Fund Account ...	...	17,062	3 9
Liabilities—				Cash and Stamps at Head Office.	...	1,831	2 0
Sundry Creditors ...	...		3,761 11 2	Cash at Tea Experimental			
Audit Fee ...	...		750 0 0	Station, Devarshola ...	...	15	4 4
			4,511 11 2	Cash with Asst. Coffee Scientific			
				Officer ...	...	7	9 1
							66,414 3 1
Total ...			Rs. 3,53,603 8 10	Total ...			Rs. 3,53,603 8 10

We have audited the Balance Sheet of THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 1946 and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Association's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Association and Returns from the Scientific Department.



UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA
HEAD OFFICE
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1946

CSL

EXPENDITURE	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	INCOME	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
To Establishment—							By Subscription—						
Secretary's Salary ...	13,200	0	0				Ordinary Members ...	50,295	8	9			
Secretary's Dearness Allowance ...	1,000	0	0				Association Members ...	750	0	0			
Secretary's Entertainment Allowance ...	600	0	0				Firms and Companies ...	4,050	0	0			
Asst. Secretary's Salary ...	3,285	0	0								55,095	8	9
Asst. Secretary's Dearness Allowance ...	712	12	0										
Late Secretary's Pension ...	4,000	0	0				„ Interest ...				3,928	9	10
Late Office Manager's Pension ...	700	0	0				„ Sundry Receipts ...				491	11	9
Office Establishment Salaries ...	7,174	4	0				„ Establishment Refunds—						
Office Establishment Allowances ...	3,354	10	3				Planters' Chronicle ...	6,000	0	0			
Office Staff Rent Allowance ...	681	3	9				Buying Agency ...	1,600	0	0			
				34,707	14	0	District Association, for collection of local subscription ...	180	0	0			
„ Rents—							Labour Department, for writing up Employees' Provident Fund accounts ..	50	0	0			
Office, Meeting Hall, Secretary and Assistant Secretary's Quarters, and Block 'C'. ...				3,735	0	0	Mepacrine Distribution ...	1,500	0	0			
„ Office—											9,330	0	0
Postage and Telegrams ...	1,971	4	10										
Printing, Stationery and Advertising:													
Printing and Stationery ...	1,193	1	0										
Advertising ...	984	12	0										
				2,177	13	0							
Periodicals and Library ...				195	12	0							
Telephone and Lighting ...				494	6	6							
Bank Charges ...				233	7	6							
Incidentals ...				846	5	2							
				5,919	1	0							
„ General—													
Meetings and Conferences ...	14,189	15	2										
Audit Fee ...	750	0	0										
Medical Expenses ...	413	11	6										
Profession Tax ...	38	0	0										
Excess of expenditure over income from 'Glenview' property ...	863	1	11										
Provident Fund ...	2,140	5	0										
Furlough and Passage ...	720	0	0										
Planting Members' Expenditure ...	1,063	10	6										
Employers' Federation of Southern India ...	1,000	0	0										
				21,178	12	1							
„ Excess of income over expenditure transferred to Head Office Fund ...				3,305	3	3							
Total ...				68,845	14	4	Total ...				68,845	14	4



UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1946

EXPENDITURE							RS	A	P	RS	A	P
To SCIENTIFIC OFFICERS' SALARIES—												
European	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,200	0	0			
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,000	0	0			
„ Subordinate Staff	...	...	...	...	...	...				29,200	0	0
„ Staff Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	...				2,246	8	0
„ Dearness Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	...				2,983	11	0
„ Travelling Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...				4,814	7	0
„ Medical Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...				2,598	5	0
„ Passage Money Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...				336	1	6
„ Provident Funds	...	...	...	...	...	...				1,240	0	0
„ Office Expenses and Incidentals	...	...	...	...	...	...				3,364	8	0
„ Upkeep of Roads, Buildings, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...				600	7	0
„ General Research Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...				611	15	5
„ Land Taxes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...				9,471	5	0
„ Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	...				315	0	6
„ Depreciation on Buildings and Furniture	...	...	...	...	...	...				220	15	0
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to—	...	...	...	...	...	...				6,900	0	0
Tea Scientific Section Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,352	5	1			
Coffee Scientific Section Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,704	13	9			
										4,057	2	10
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...				68,960	6	3
INCOME							RS	A	P	RS	A	P
By SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM MEMBERS												
„ MADRAS GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION	...	...	...	...	...	...				44,691	11	0
„ COORG GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION	...	...	...	...	...	...				16,500	0	0
„ Sale of produce, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...				3,000	0	0
										4,768	11	3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...				68,960	6	3

GLENVIEW PROPERTY

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1946

EXPENDITURE							RS	A	P	RS	A	P
To Salaries												
„ General repairs and upkeep	...	...	...	...	...	...				1,328	7	0
„ Taxes and Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	...				2,004	15	0
„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...				1,976	14	8
„ Depreciation—	...	...	...	...	...	...				181	11	3
Buildings and Furniture	...	...	...	...	...	...				2,391	2	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...				7,883	1	11
INCOME							RS	A	P	RS	A	P
By Rents												
„ Excess of expenditure over income transferred to Head Office account	...	...	...	...	...	...				7,020	0	0
										863	1	11
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...				7,883	1	11

U.P.A.S.I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Fifty-third Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, which commenced its session at 3.0 p.m. on Thursday, August 15, 1946, at 'Glenview', Coonoor.

The following were present:—

MESSRS. F. H. FARMER (President), H. C. BOYD, MAJOR A. L. HILL, F. G. WALLACE, R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A. (Central), H. GERRY, M.L.A. (Executive Committee Members), L. E. MITCHELL (Secretary and Accountant), P. S. SUBRAMANIAM (Asst. Secretary), and R. UNWIN (Director, Labour Dept.)

ORDINARY MEMBERS

ALEXANDER, T. P. M. & SIR JAMES DOAK; ANAMALLAI TEA ESTATES, LTD.; VAIKUNDAM CO., LTD., per Mr. J. S. Bruce.
AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., per Mr. H. C. Boyd.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., per Mr. A. G. MacGregor.
APPAYYA, MR. B. M.; APPIAH, MR. M. P.; BALL, MAJOR E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; HOROOR SYNDICATE LTD.; HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J.; MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. D. I.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; MORGAN, MR. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SETTY, MR. D.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN, per Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
ATHREY, MR. N. B.; RAMANAN, C. S. V. & OTHERS, per Mr. N. B. Athrey.
BADNEKHAN ESTATES LTD.; BHADRA VALLEY ESTATES LTD.; CHEMBRA PEAK ESTATES LTD.; COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES LTD.; KALASA TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; KERALA CALICUT ESTATES LTD.; NADUAR ESTATES LTD.; NEWCOME, L.; NILGIRI NEERUGUNDI ESTATES CO., LTD.; OLIVER, R. O.; OLIVER, G. C. S. AND MISS C. F. OLIVER; PERIAKARAMALAI TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; SAMPAJI RUBBER CO., LTD.; THIRUMBADI RUBBER CO., LTD.; VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD., per Mr. W. W. Kilgour.
BARTON WRIGHT, R. AND G. BARTON WRIGHT, per R. Barton Wright.
BOMBAY BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., per Mr. G. R. Simpson.
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ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. A. V. Thomas.
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. W. F. Inman.
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NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
NILGIRI-WYNAAD, *per* Mr. S. A. Minkley.
WYNAAD, *per* Mr. R. W. M. Hay.

VISITORS

THE HON'BLE LADY NYE.
THE HON'BLE CAPT. J. R. WARRENDER.
MR. H. GREENFIELD, C.I.E., CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE.
MR. G. A. RAINEY, CHAIRMAN, INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION, CALCUTTA.
MR. P. J. GRIFFITHS, C.I.E., M.L.A. (CENTRAL), LEADER OF THE EUROPEAN GROUP.
MR. R. G. PEIRCE, INSPECTOR OF TEA.
MR. J. A. R. LLOYD, JOINT CONTROLLER, INDIAN TEA LICENSING COMMITTEE.
MR. W. E. SCOTT, ADDITIONAL ASST. TEA CONTROLLER.
MR. K. G. JACOB, COLLECTOR OF CENTRAL EXCISE, MADRAS.
LT.-COL. M. L. AHUJA, I.M.S., DIRECTOR, PASTEUR INSTITUTE, COONOR.
LT.-COL. K. R. K. IYENGAR, C.I.E., O.B.E., SHELLWOOD, COONOR.
MR. H. KEENE, DY. INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, OOTACAMUND.
MR. R. TRUSTCOTT, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.
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MRS. G. F. HARRISON, MRS. MITCHELL.

On arrival, the Hon'ble Lady Nye was received at the entrance of the hall by Mr. F. H. Farmer, President, who introduced the members of the Executive Committee and the Secretary. The President then conducted Lady Nye to her seat on dais.

The President then took the Chair and asked the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The President.—I will now ask the Hon'ble Lady Nye if she will be good enough to declare the Fifty-third Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India open.

Lady Nye.—I have much pleasure in declaring this meeting open. (*Loud Applause.*)

OBITUARY

The President.—Before I proceed with the meeting, I will ask you to stand while I read the list of our past and present members whose deaths have taken place during the year.

Obituary.—J. Carson Parker, Isaac Moses, G. R. Strachan, John Wedderspoon, J. S. Hawkins, G. H. Danvers Davy, W. H. Reed, J. E. Sampson, J. R. Vincent and G. H. Bingham.

After a silent pause, the President said: To their relatives and friends I express our sincere sympathy.

The President.—We have received some messages from old friends of the Association. I will ask the Secretary to read them.

The Secretary.—Messages wishing the Conference all success have been received from the following:—Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Dewan of Travancore.—“Many thanks for your invitation to attend the Annual Meeting of the United Planters' Association. The Budget Session of the Travancore Legislature starts on the 20th July and goes on from day to day until the 16th August. I have to preside over the whole session and therefore greatly regret my inability to attend the meetings. I wish them all success.”

Sir Frederick James.—“Please accept my best wishes for a most successful conference and convey my greetings to the members. I owe them all a great deal and their constant and generous support will always be one of my happiest recollections.”

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—“Will you please convey to the President and members my good wishes for a very successful meeting, and may U.P.A.S.I. continue to flourish, as I know it will.”

Mr. P. S. Kumaraswamy Raja, Minister in charge of Agriculture, Government of Madras.—“I wish success to your meetings.”

Chairman, The Planters' Association of Ceylon.—“On the occasion of your Fifty-third Annual General Meeting I send you warmest greetings from members of my Association.”

Mr. W. W. Mayne has cabled from Port Talbot as follows: “Best wishes for successful meeting.”

I have also received letters regretting their inability to attend and expressing their best wishes for the meeting from Sir George Boag, Dewan of Cochin; Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau, Dewan of Mysore; Mr. W. K. M. Langley; Mr. V. V. Giri, Minister in charge of Labour, Government of Madras; Mr. H. S. Town; Sir John and Lady Hall; Mr. Y. N. Sukthankar, Secretary, Commerce Department; Rao Bahadur B. Viswanath, Director of Agriculture; Mr. W. Grant; Mr. C. W. Ayers, Central Board of Revenue; Mr. K. R. Narayana Iyer, Director of Food Supplies, Trivandrum; Mr. E. M. Gawne, Chief Secretary to Government of Madras; Mr. J. F. C. Reynolds, General Manager, South Indian Railway; Dewan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi, Controller of Coffee; Mr. P. Kurian John, Rubber Production Commissioner, Kottayam; Mr. W. H. Miles, Commissioner for India, Indian Tea Market Expansion Board; Mr. L. B. Green, Tea Controller for India; Dr. S. Dorai Raj, Chairman, Estates Staffs Association of Southern India.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President.—Mr. F. H. Farmer, then delivered the following address:—

THE HON'BLE LADY NYE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is my privilege to welcome you to the Fifty-third Annual General Meeting of this Association, the first Post-War Conference, which falls exactly one year after the cessation of hostilities. We are extremely sorry that His Excellency, Sir Archibald Nye, is unable to open this Conference for us today, but we fully understand and appreciate that important engagements necessitate his presence in another part of the Province. We are, however, most grateful to Lady Nye for deputising on this occasion, and hope that on some date in the future we shall have the honour and pleasure of entertaining His Excellency.

Before dealing with matters which relate to our affairs, may I take this opportunity to welcome back the many Indian and European Staff who have returned from Military Service, with grateful acknowledgment of the part they have played in dealing successfully with the enemies of the country.

With the exception of the Cardamom crop for which this has been a poor year, crops have been satisfactory. Tea and Coffee prices have been maintained, but the price of Rubber has been subject to Government control with somewhat arbitrary fixation of prices which has caused much anxiety on the part of producers. There is every necessity for the payment of a fair price for Indian Rubber comparable to the price paid to Ceylon producers, and while Government continue to control the price, it is reasonable to expect this claim to be accepted. The cost of production of all our products continues to increase in common with the cost of living index, and in this matter the provision of food grains for the labourers of the Estates is something which requires the unceasing attention of the management. The shortage of food throughout India has occupied the thoughts of all of us for many months and with grave anxiety we have studied the situation from day to day, hoping that the calamity of widespread famine would be averted. We are aware that the crisis is not yet over but we are duly grateful to all those who have handled the food stocks available, to distribute them equitably, to remove them to places when and where required with an efficiency which has met the situation to the best advantage up to the present time. We have been, and are now, ready to acknowledge with thanks the action of the Railwaymen in calling off a strike which threatened to undermine all the plans and the determination of Government to handle the food supplies, but the action of the S. I. R. since the settlement between the parties is endangering the situation once again. Few of us are probably well acquainted with the grievances of Railwaymen, but that they were able to find a settlement at this critical time is more likely to rally public sympathy for their cause than would otherwise have been the case.

The food problem has started a new sphere of Estate management, the provision of a daily meal to workers from canteens. It is not an easy matter to start a canteen to supply five hundred or a thousand meals a day to workers who are scattered over a large Estate, but the problem has been met by many in a practical manner and is now a feature on many estates. The important point so far as estates are concerned is whether canteen feeding is of real value to the estate worker. If in the process it also assists Government in their objective of affording to the workers opportunity to become accustomed to a more nutritious diet with a minimum waste of basic foods in short supply, so much the better.

Reports which have been received from estates which have started canteen feeding indicate an exceptionally favourable reception by the workers, who clearly appreciate a good meal well cooked and with a cup of tea, at a cost which competes most favourably with prices of shopkeepers in the area.

Initial success with this new project indicates that comfortable and well run canteens will remain a popular and helpful branch of labour welfare long after this time of food scarcity.

To return for a moment to the matter of strikes, the Postal Strikes have caused much inconvenience in many quarters, and it is to be deplored that in spite of a settlement between the Government and employees, the strike continued in several large cities after the leaders had instructed the workers to return to duty. In India today there is great activity with the formation of Unions, and news of strikes is a normal item of the day in the Press. As regards Unions, however, Estate labour has not yet started in many districts, and the recommendation of the Rege Committee is that Wage Boards with official representatives for the workers would meet the situation in a more satisfactory manner for the time being. This recommendation may not prevent the formation of Unions, and District Planters' Associations as well as Central Associations should be prepared to deal with the Unions as and when they become active. Within short memory, the members of this Association were unable to come to a unanimous decision on the question of relationship between this Association and the E.S.A.S.I., and at this time it was clearly evident that members would not accept the Association as having a right to decide administrative issues to which all members would be bound. It is surely necessary that some organization with something more than a mere advisory capacity should be set up to negotiate with Employees Unions. Even if it is a matter of negotiations on Official Wage Boards or with Government Welfare Officials, members will require selected representatives to put the case of the Employers, with adequate authority. This subject is deserving the immediate consideration of the Association and members will be well advised to examine the question without delay.

There has been little change in the labour situation during the past year, and although many estates continue to be short of requirements, there is less anxiety in this respect than before. Contrary to some outside

opinion we are deeply concerned for the general welfare of our labour and questions affecting their pay and welfare are kept under continuous examination by the Labour Advisory and Executive Committees. Recently we have given much thought to the question of a new basic or consolidated pay, but as the Industry needs and welcomes the idea of simplification of our present complicated wage system, so long as the food shortage lasts, our obligations to our labour to ensure for them adequate supplies of food, will not permit the consolidation and simplification we hope eventually to achieve. It is hoped that the necessity for meeting the present day requirements of labour as regards housing, medical facilities, education, amenities and such matters as sanitation and pure water supplies will be given the attention of all Employers. In this connection the Report of the Rege Committee of Enquiry on conditions of labour in plantations in India has been published and from the information it contains it is apparent that there is much that can be done to bring all Estates up to the better standards which are advocated. There is every necessity for Employers and Managers to be alive to the demand for improving the standard of living of workers to the maximum and there is no doubt that this Report upon prevailing conditions will have some influence on them. In fact, the report is full of meat but some of it seems to be tainted.

Under relations between Planters and Labour, the report states that the relationship between Planters and Labour on Estates is "fairly cordial" and goes on to remark that it cannot be said whether this is due to mutual confidence, or fear on the part of the labourers! Has anyone ever known of cordial relations existing on fear. "Fear!" This astonishing and extraordinary comment throws the shadow of bias, on the report which, I am sorry to say, is deepened by other inconsistent remarks in the report. Some fifteen years ago, the Whitley Commission referred to the confidence between labour and management of plantations, and the Report admits that there is still cordial relationship between the same parties. Fifteen years of mutual confidence, which it is inferred by this Committee, has been created and sustained by "fear". It would be ridiculed if the inference came from less serious persons, but it is fortunately belied by themselves in the statement that cordial relations are there.

Another matter dealt with in the Report on which I should like to make a few remarks is the recommendation made that recruiting for South Indian Plantations might be changed to the same system as for North India.

Let us hope that this recommendation will not be considered in official quarters without a searching enquiry among both Employers and Workers. The Report admits that the Kangany system is popular with all parties and I suggest that this is no time to play around with an essential labour of an Agricultural Industry on the recommendation of individuals who have not taken the full implications into account. I venture to say that precipitate action to change the method of labour recruitment in South India may not only deplete the industry of a serious proportion of its labour, but may successfully deprive many of the living which they now earn and the standard of living which they enjoy and which is steadily and rapidly improving.

The removal of certain controls over Iron and Steel has proved a doubtful blessing so far as our estates are concerned. Formerly it was possible to meet some of the most urgent requirements of estates from the quotas allotted to the industry. But, with controls removed, while we were free to purchase from any stockists, no stockist could or would meet our estate requirements. However, I am pleased to be able to say that Government have recently restored the control which is particularly welcome as many estates indents are for purposes of giving effect to the demands for improved labour conditions.

There is good reason to congratulate Coffee interests on their unanimity on organization for the control of crop and distribution. The Indian Coffee Board have established a market for coffee which has been invaluable to the Product and can be taken as an example of what can be achieved with the support and interest of those concerned. A proposal has been made to Government for dealing with Cardamoms in a similar manner, and it is to be hoped that the results will give greater security for the Producer, than he has enjoyed in the past and thereby strengthen and expand the interests in this agricultural commodity. Looking back over some years on the economic working of our products, there is abundant evidence pointing to the advantage of control which far outweigh short term booms with probably longer term slumps and all growers should keep this steadily in mind. This question is coming to the fore rapidly as regards tea and the Industry has strong advocates for freedom of action both as regards production and marketing. The Indian Tea Control Act comes to an end shortly and it looks probable that 1946 will see the end of Government Contracts for export teas. Prices are high and generally the conditions are ideal for lucrative speculation and unbridled expansion which if permitted might in the long run react to the detriment of all and very probably the ruin of many, when circumstances once again will call for laborious efforts to re-establish the Industry on firm foundations. International Agreement has served the Tea Industry well for the past 13 years, and we should be well-advised not to discard it in its entirety.

Our Scientific activities have not made much progress during the year, and I am sorry to hear of some opposition to an enlarged Tea Scientific Station in South India. Tocklai in North India and St. Coombes in Ceylon are also of some value to our tea plantations, but the acreage of the South has its own peculiar problems, and our Estates will, there is every reason to believe, expand considerably in the future, so that surely they are worthy of the best Scientific Station that can be set up. Voluntary contributions are unlikely to be sufficient but, other ways and means could and should be found to raise the capital and revenue required for the expansion, which, I hope, will come about. Your Tea Section Committee are examining this matter and will put forward their recommendations in due course.

As regards Coffee Scientific work, it has left the U.P.A.S.I. fold and has now come under the control of the Indian Coffee Board. Ample funds are available for extensive research and scientific work, so that Coffee growers can look forward to the best advice and assistance that can be had.

A larger quantity of Sulphate of Ammonia was made available to South Indian Plantations for the year 1945-46, and although it has eased the demand, the allotment is still insufficient to meet the increased manuring programmes which are part of the post-war plans of many producers.

After 17 years of outstanding service to the Association, first in the position of Coffee Scientific Officer and latterly as Secretary and Scientific Officer, Mr. W. W. Mayne has left to take up another appointment with, it is pleasant to know, planting interests, so that we shall still have him as an active member of the Association. Sir Frederick James has also left us for good, and his seat on the Central Assembly was taken by Mr. R. C. Morris. We cannot merely congratulate Mr. Morris, but we have also reason to thank him for his early active interest in a number of matters which are of current concern to Members of the Association. It gives me much pleasure to announce at this Meeting that from private subscriptions Members are presenting both Sir Frederick

James and Mr. Mayne with suitable moments in appreciation of the services which they have given the Association. Mr. Gerry, to whose election to the Madras Legislative Assembly, I referred at our last meeting, continues to serve us well and our thanks are due to him for the time and care he devotes to this office.

Our contacts with the South Indian Association in London, and the Indian Tea Association of Calcutta have continued with that friendliness which has marked our relationship for many years. As you will remember we had the pleasure of a visit last March from Mr. P. G. Edwards, Chairman of the South Indian Association, and recent correspondence between that body and the International Tea Committee shows that Mr. Edwards is not unmindful of our special difficulties in South India. In May, we also had the privilege of a visit from Mr. P. J. Griffiths who gave us the views of the Indian Tea Association on matters of mutual importance to the Tea Industry as a whole. There is no doubt that these personal visits between members of the two Associations do much to clarify any difference of outlook on questions of common interest affecting the Industry, and strengthen the case of either or both Associations by collaboration.

To the Members of the Executive Committee, I offer my sincere thanks for the advice and assistance they have given me during the year. My thanks are also due to Mr. Mayne as Secretary to the Association up to the 31st March, and to Mr. Mitchell I extend a warm welcome on his appointment as present Secretary. He has taken over at a busy time and there is no indication that it will ever get less onerous, so I feel that he can rest assured that time will not lie heavy on his hands.

The Association has passed through a favourable year, its membership having increased by about 9,000 acres during the year, so that we now represent 2,71,000 acres. The Association has continued to give useful assistance to members in problems connected with supplies of estate transport, quinine, fertilizers, building materials, agricultural tools and machinery, etc., and in addition has kept members constantly informed of new and proposed legislation and has maintained close touch with Government Departments on other matters affecting the plantation industry.

In the distribution of quinine, not only members of the Association, but all plantations have benefited by the Association agreeing to distribute quinine for plantation labour on behalf of Government.

The U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department's membership continues to increase steadily, and I wish to record the Association's appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Director and his staff during the year. While we have had our moments of anxiety, I feel that on the whole the Association has every reason to be satisfied with a smooth and successful first post-war year.

There have been matters of great importance in India during the past year, which must have been the concern of all members of the Association as they touch closely on the lives of all persons in the country. The universal desire for a happy settlement of the constitutional issue needs no emphasis from here, but it can be stated that there is no stronger wish for this to come about than from the agricultural interests which this Association represents. Stability is the essential for industrial and agricultural progress. However, what seems to be, lacking at the Centre has been less apparent in our Province and our Provincial Government is once again in the hands of the elected representatives of the people. While wishing them a successful term of office we can draw extra confidence from the knowledge of the tradition of this great Province, which has shown an ability for sober judgment and sound policies which has been well and truly reflected in the peaceful enjoyment of life throughout the country-side. (*Loud and prolonged Applause.*)

The President.—I will now ask the Hon'ble Lady Nye to address the meeting.

Lady Nye spoke as follows:—

MR. FARMER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I should like to thank you all for the warm welcome which you have given me. I am delighted to have the opportunity of meeting all of you.

My first duty is to bring you my husband's apologies for his unavoidable absence today. We have both heard a great deal about planters and the planting industry in South India, and he was looking forward, as I was, to making your acquaintance. However, in view of the many difficult problems which are coming up just now, and with the budget session in progress, he felt that he could not leave Madras. Your President has said that you understand the reasons for his absence and I can only assure you that no one regrets more than my husband that he cannot be here today. He will, I am sure, fully share your President's kind hope that he may be able to come next year.

I have been most interested in your President's address and especially in your concern for the welfare of your workers and your practical attitude towards your post-war difficulties and problems.

I am greatly tempted to comment on some of the matters raised in the address, but I have been told that as a mere woman I must not interfere in such matters which are the concern of men. Like most women, where men's affairs are concerned, I do what I am told—at least generally—so I will only say that some of the suggestions in the President's address for canteens and the like are so practical and sensible that I am sure they must have emanated from a woman.

I am looking forward before long to seeing some of your estates at work and I hope then to have the pleasure of meeting some of you again.

In conclusion, I should like to say that I am very glad to be here today and I hope that next year both my husband and I will be able to come and enjoy your traditional hospitality. (*Loud and prolonged applause.*)

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—President, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my privilege to return thanks to the Hon'ble Lady Nye for the honour she has done us in coming here today and so graciously opening this our Fifty-third Annual Conference.

This is, perhaps, the first time Lady Nye has met the planting community in an official capacity and I hope she will take away with her happy memories of the occasion.

We should have been doubly honoured had His Excellency the Governor also found it possible to be with us today. It is our misfortune this was not to be. On your behalf, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, ask Lady Nye to convey our humble respects to His Excellency and to express our hope that we shall be fortunate enough to have them both with us at our next Annual Conference. (*Applause.*)

The President.—I will now adjourn the meeting to 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 17th August, 1946.

The Meeting then adjourned for a group photograph and tea in the 'Glenview' grounds.



U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

The Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India reassembled at 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, the 17th August, 1946, at 'Glenview' with Mr. H. C. Boyd in the Chair.

The Chairman.—I have been asked by your President to apologise to you for his inability to preside over your deliberations this morning owing to some very urgent business which necessitated his presence elsewhere.

I have very great pleasure in welcoming to our meeting Brig. C. H. Cooper who, I hope, will talk to us later in the meeting about Army surplus stores. (*Applause.*)

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—We are now on item No. 6 of the Agenda, that is signing of the minutes of the proceedings of the General Meeting held on 28th March 1946. Extracts of these proceedings were published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 1st May, 1946, on pp. 174-76. Have I your permission to sign the Minutes of the proceedings?

Permission being given by the meeting, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Chairman.—The next item is to consider the adoption of the Report of the Executive Committee for the year 1945-46. The Report has been in your hands, and with your permission, I propose to take it as read. Has any one any question to ask on the Report?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—There is one point. What is the present acreage that is included in the U.P.A.S.I. membership? It is desirable to try to induce the other people who are not members to come in by special means.

The Secretary.—(After reference) We have not been able to get figures of actual acreage in South India as supplied under the various crop control Acts. Information in the *Planting Directory of Southern India*, 1940, shows the total area of plantations as 585,496 acres and the area represented through U.P.A.S.I. is 271,064 acres, which represents about 46% of the total acreage under plantation products in South India.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Thank you very much. We should make greater efforts to see that most of the people who are outside should be brought into the Association. 51% instead of 46% would sound better.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—Sir, there is one item regarding Glenview offices, which was discussed at the Labour Control Committee meeting. The present offices are very dark and the sanitary conditions are very unsatisfactory. I feel, Sir—and I think many other members will agree with me—that the present offices should be modernised. We have a large reserve and I believe now is the time to spend that money on improvement of buildings. I would ask the Executive Committee to consider this matter.

The Chairman.—This matter was discussed by the Executive Committee the other day and it was decided to refer the whole matter to the Glenview Management Committee. We will bear your remarks in mind.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—When considering that matter, perhaps the question of moving the headquarters of the Association to Madras, a more central place and a capital town, might also be considered, before deciding on incurring heavy expenses on modernising the buildings.

The Chairman.—That will also be considered. Any other question on the Report, Gentlemen? If not, I propose from the chair:—

'That the Report of the Executive Committee for 1945-46 be adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS, 1945-46

The Chairman.—We now proceed to the next item on the agenda which is to pass the accounts for 1945-46. I will ask the Secretary to read the Auditors' report.

The Secretary.—The Report of the Auditors reads as follows:—

'We have audited the Balance Sheet of the United Planters' Association of Southern India excluding Labour Department Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March, 1946, and have obtained all the informations and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Association's affairs according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Association and the returns from the Scientific Department.'

(Sd.) FRASER & ROSS

Chartered Accountants,
Registered Accountants, } Auditors.'

The Chairman.—Has any member any question to ask regarding Accounts? If not, I propose from the Chair:—

'That the Audited Accounts for the year 1945-46 as circulated be passed.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, I will now request Mr. Griffiths to address the meeting.

Mr. P. J. Griffiths.—Collaboration between I.T.A. and the U.P.A.S.I. would be particularly necessary in regard to labour matters, in the months and year to come.

Although the two Associations were not concerned with politics in the narrow sense, it was nevertheless essential for them to follow political trends in so far as they were likely to affect labour legislation or the attitude of labour. Four main such trends were discernible at the present time in India :—

(a) *The "Progressive" trend.*—All parties in India were likely to support labour legislation of the kind generally described as "progressive" which meant in effect that Central and Provincial Governments alike would probably be bound to err in favour of labour, rather than in favour of the capitalist. Mr. Griffiths took the various political parties in turn and explained his reason for this expectation. The conclusion was that whatever might be the outcome of the constitutional issue and whatever particular political party might assume power at the Centre or in the Provinces, we must expect a spate of labour legislation.

(b) *The Imitative Tendency.*—India to-day was very anxious to be considered a progressive country and very much afraid, therefore, of appearing to be behind in implementing the recommendations of such international bodies as the International Labour Organisation. Dr. Ambedkar, when Labour Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, had already deplored the fact that, while India had carried out fairly faithfully the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour, she had not yet begun to implement those of the international labour organisation and he indicated that this would now be the task ahead of labour authorities in India. This view is very widely held and it is reasonable to expect a good deal of legislation, based on the recommendation of the International Labour Organisation, irrespective of its suitability or otherwise to Indian conditions.

(c) *The Tendency towards State Control.*—This tendency, which was manifest in so many countries today, was likely to be particularly strong in India where the bureaucratic tradition was still strong. It was unlikely that we should be left free to settle relations between ourselves and our labour forces without Government intervention at fairly frequent intervals, even though labour might in fact gain more by direct dealings with us than by Government intervention. It was therefore, essential firstly that we should insist on the various Governments concerned becoming well informed with regard to plantation matters and secondly that we should ourselves adopt a sufficiently progressive attitude to enable us to influence Government labour policy.

(d) *The Growth of the Communist Movement.*—Mr. Griffiths first spoke about this in general terms and then explained the recent developments in Darjeeling District.

Economic Factors.—Apart from these political factors there were two economic factors at work in the sphere of labour.

(a) *The new standard of living.*—Even before the War the demands of certain sections of the labouring class were growing, under the stimulus of the supply of cheap goods from Japan, Czechoslovakia and elsewhere. During the War, urban labour had been very prosperous, at any rate until the sharp rise in prices came in the second half of the War and during the period of prosperity had developed many fresh needs. Similarly, in spite of the rise of prices of consumer goods, agriculturists had had far greater cash resources than ever before and had therefore begun to develop new tastes—the man who formerly used only gur, now in many cases uses sugar. Although our own labour had not been directly affected by these factors, it came from the classes which had themselves been affected and it would be unreasonable to expect that it should remain immune from these influences. Nor indeed would any of us regard it as desirable that the demand for a better standard of living should be checked.

(b) *Price Levels.*—It was unlikely that price levels would ever return to what they were in 1939. The combination of the demand for a better standard of living, with permanently higher price levels, would clearly have a considerable effect upon all matters connected with wages of labour.

Our Position.—We were thus moving into an era in which we should have to cope with :

- (a) A spate of labour legislation.
- (b) An economic situation and a demand for higher wages.
- (c) The steady growth of many subversive influences.

Were there any principles which could help us in that era ?

The first suggested principle was that of reasonable liberality, in the sense that it should be our aim to anticipate and remove grievances almost before the labour force itself had become aware of them. This did not mean the setting up of impracticable ideals or a surrender to unreasonable demands. It did mean that we should keep wage and welfare conditions constantly under review and make any necessary changes in them before we were forced to do so.

The second suggested principle was, that we should combine with this principle of liberality a consistent firmness in refusing to submit to unreasonable demands—even though such firmness might at times lead to temporary loss and even to the closing down of a garden or gardens. If this policy were to be successful, however, we must not only take care that no real grievances existed, but we must also be certain that we were in step with Government, so that we could expect backing in the event of trouble. It followed that we must come to agreement with the various Governments concerned, in regard to standards of housing and the like.

The third suggested principle was that we should insist on the separation of plantation legislation from the general body of industrial legislation. What we needed was a plantation code—we should not get such a code unless we readily accepted the necessity for plantation legislation. Mere resistance to the application of legislation to plantations, without something positive to take its place, would simply result in the application to us of the unsuitable body of general industrial legislation. The differences between conditions in the North and the South need not militate against plantation legislation—the legislation could be common, while differences could be dealt with in the Rules.

Wages.—Mr. Griffiths then explained that in North India we were examining permanent wage levels and in the meantime had consulted the Branches regarding the desirability of temporary increases in the immediate



figure. He also explained that we should welcome the possibility of abandoning the supply of foodstuffs at concession rates and switching over to a cash dearness allowance instead and that the question as to when this could be done was under discussion with the Branches. It would, in Mr. Griffiths' view, be difficult to combine the system of concession foodstuffs with a statutory minimum wage in the conditions of North India where labourers did not turn out to work for fixed hours.

Minimum Wages Legislation.—Mr. Griffiths explained that we were prepared to support such legislation, provided that—(a) it followed the third of the forms suggested by the Royal Commission on Labour, (b) it would be administered by Wage Boards on which labour would be represented by officials and (c) that Government itself established an adequate statistical Branch, so that the Wage Boards could have some satisfactory basis of work.

Trade Unions.—Mr. Griffiths explained the policy of the I. T. A. with regard to Trade Unions.

Welfare Committees.—Certain members of the U.P.A.S.I. suggested that the formation of Welfare Committees might be advisable as a means of preventing the formation of Trade Unions of an undesirable kind and as means of education for the workers.

Mr. Griffiths explained that there had been some division of opinion on this subject in the North, where experiments in Welfare Committees had in fact been tried. On balance, the general view was probably that they were not a suitable organisation for most gardens. A Manager with the right flair and temperament might find a Welfare Committee useful; other Managers might well find such Committees on top of them or alternatively might so restrict the scope and functions of those Committees as to make them meaningless.

Strikes and Disputes.—Mr. Griffiths explained the mechanism of the Circle Enquiry Committees and commended it to the consideration of the U.P.A.S.I.

He then raised the question of the lightning strike with particular reference to the possibility of prohibition under an amended Trade Disputes Act. The I. T. A. had always felt that the majority of so-called strikes are merely stoppages arising from misunderstanding; they provide a useful safety-valve and it would be a mistake to turn them into something portentous by a cumbersome procedure under which notice would be required. On the other hand, some such procedure might be advantageous when applied to the genuine strike, based on a demand for a change in wages. It was to be considered whether any formula could be found which would include the one and exclude the other kind of stoppage.

Employers' Federation.—Mr. Griffiths was asked for his views as to the desirability of forming something in the nature of an Employers' Union which would have power to bind its members and would also represent them in legal proceedings. Mr. Griffiths was not able to give any I. T. A. view on this matter as it had not been considered but he gave his own personal first reactions. Such a Union might have two separate sets of functions—(a) Advisory and (b) representative in the legal sense. As far as the advisory functions were concerned, the I. T. A. was already sufficiently organised and its structure was such as to ensure the acceptance of its recommendations by a considerable proportion of the gardens concerned. As far as this aspect of the work was concerned there would be no advantage—on the contrary there might be disadvantage—in setting up a separate Employers' Union. If however Unions covering more than one garden came into existence and strikes therefore related to a number of gardens at one time and if at the same time, some machinery for compulsory conciliation were introduced, it would clearly be inconvenient for a large number of managers to have to appear in person in the proceedings concerned. Some legal machinery by which they could be represented by a common body would be required. Whether this could be done by the I. T. A. or whether some fresh organisation would have to be formed, would need examination with particular reference to whatever legislation was introduced. Mr. Griffiths felt that the I. T. A. would prefer to avoid setting up a separate organisation unless this were legally unavoidable. He undertook to examine this question and to let the U.P.A.S.I. have a copy of his note.

The Chairman.—If anybody would like to ask of Mr. Griffiths any questions, he will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. R. W. M. Hay.—We have an Estate Staff Union in South India. I think Mr. Rege has suggested in his Report that the Estate Staff Union should deal with labour unions.

Mr. P. J. Griffiths.—That is a problem of which we have no experience in North India, because we have no Estate Staff Unions at present. Our attitude towards a possible formation of a staff union is that its members should be drawn from the clerical staff and that it should not mix itself with the formation of a labour union at all.

Mr. C. J. Madden.—Mr. Griffiths referred to regional enquiry committee for settling labour matters. I would like to know whether the decision arrived at by these Committees is binding upon the managements of other within that particular district.

Mr. P. J. Griffiths.—In theory, it is not binding. The Committee has no powers to enforce any of its decisions in practice. What happens is the Committee reports to Calcutta. The I. T. A. then communicates the decisions to Agency Houses, who ask their managers to effect the recommendations of the Committee. As far as I know there is no single case in which the recommendations have not been accepted.

A Member.—My feeling is that the most fundamental cause of present labour trouble is food. If the managements anticipated labourers' grievances and evolved schemes by which the labourers could be assured of food, there will be less trouble from them. So far as the management of labour is concerned, in all the attempts in solving labour problems, there must be representation made to Government that in fixing standards for labourers' wages, etc., an adequate supply of food at stabilised prices is ensured. Securing food for the labourer is the fundamental and primary responsibility of the planters.

Mr. P. J. Griffiths.—I agree. The fixation of foodgrain prices has been engaging the attention of the Government of India and I hope within a short time the Central Government will stabilise the prices of foodgrains. Unless prices are fixed, it will not be possible to drop concession of foodgrains.

The Chairman.—If there are no further questions, Gentlemen, I would like to express how extremely grateful we are to Mr. Griffiths for his talk to us this morning. When Mr. Griffiths talks he always holds one's interest and this morning was no exception to the rule. We are indebted to him for making the long journey from Calcutta to attend our meetings and I can assure him we appreciate it. He spoke on many problems that closely affect our two Associations and on your behalf I would like him to take back with him to our Northern friends our desire for the closest co-operation with their Association on all matters of common interest.

Gentlemen, on your behalf, I thank Mr. Griffiths and express the hope that he will be with us this time next year to speak to us again. (Applause)

The Chairman.—I should like to ask Mr. Morris, our member on the Central Legislature if he would address us a few remarks.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—Mr. President and Gentlemen, we have heard a very clear statement of the probable labour policies of the Central and Provincial Governments from Mr. Griffiths, and he has given valuable suggestions on the line of action which the planting industry might adopt in this connection. I entirely agree with his views and I therefore do not want to recapitulate what he has said.

To my mind, there is one interesting feature of the new Government that is about to be formed—i.e. the new Congress Government. It will be interesting to observe what their policy towards labour will be. Up to the present, the Congress Party was an Opposition party in the Central Legislature and its attitude towards labour legislation was prone to go beyond the policy and recommendations of the Labour Department of the late Government. I think it is quite likely that under the new Congress Government you will see less that tendency and that they will be inclined to adopt a more reasonable attitude towards labour problems.

I have next to refer to the work in the Assembly. It is not dull. It is extremely interesting. It is also hard work, not so much in the house but outside the house. If one does one's job conscientiously, it is a very full time job, with talks to be made, legislation matters to be mugged up and letters to be written to one's constituents. It is very different from the work I had to do on the Mysore Legislature. The parliamentary procedure in the Central Legislature is far more strictly adhered to than was the case in the Mysore Legislatures. I may not be able to carry on at the Centre after the end of this year and I think it is likely that a more suitable man will have to be found who will be able to spare more time and do more work and will be able to put his views better than I can in the house. I am a poor speaker. But I shall never forget the experience and the time I have had in Delhi. I have made most interesting contacts and I am grateful for having been asked to take on membership of the Central Assembly as a representative of Europeans in South India. I think that is all I can say now but if any of you would like to ask me any questions, I will try to answer them. (Applause)

Mr. P. J. Griffiths.—Mr. Morris has spoken with his usual modesty. I would like to assure you all here that he is one who puts in a tremendous amount of very hard work in the Assembly and his work for his constituents both inside and outside the Legislature is illimitable. You are most fortunate to have such a representative. (Hear, hear)

Mr. R. C. Morris.—Thank you very much, Mr. Griffiths.

The Chairman.—Mr. Gerry is our representative—the planting members' representative—in the Madras Assembly. If anybody would like to ask him questions about his work in the Madras Assembly, I am sure he will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I would like to ask Mr. Gerry to tell us some of his experiences in the Madras Assembly.

Mr. H. Gerry.—Sir, my experience in the Madras Assembly has been a very short one. I have put in only a few days attendance in the Assembly and at the present moment, in the words of Mr. Morris, I am in the stage of mugging up various subjects. There is one particular matter which must interest you and that is the Agricultural Income-tax Bill. As you are probably aware, eight districts in the Province are coming under Prohibition and consequently there will be a loss in revenue to the tune of many lakhs. The proposal for a tax on agricultural income is being revived to make up part of this loss in revenue. At the moment we are paying income tax on 40% of our profits from tea and I think we will have to pay income tax on the balance. I believe that this Bill will come up before the House shortly. The House has also been engaged on the Food problems, to a lesser extent on clothing and education. There is also at the present time the Budget. I think that is all I can say at present. If I can be of any use to any member I shall be happy to give any help I can. (Applause)

The Chairman.—On your behalf, I should like to thank Mr. Morris and Mr. Gerry for so ably looking after our interests, both political and planting during the year.

I shall now request Brigadier C. H. Cooper to talk to you on the question of army surplus disposals.

Brig. C. H. Cooper.—Mr. President and Gentlemen, I did not know that I was going to speak to you this morning. I have not prepared any speech or notes. I think, first of all, I should explain to you what my job is like. You may like to ask me why I am here. Actually only this year, the Army have been able to give certain help to Civil Governments in combating famine. My branch in the H.Q. Southern Command is carrying out this work of helping civil governments and since then I have helped all civil interests as far as the Army could do. This is a very interesting job. I have made many friends. I should like to touch generally on the food position. It is purely my personal view as I see for myself. It is that the food position remains very critical. If the expected imports do not come in and are stopped now, there would undoubtedly be a famine. If, however, imports continue to roll in, there would be no famine. The whole situation until probably December depends on the regular imports of foodstuffs into the country and their distribution. The railway strikes will, however, make distribution very difficult. In this connection, you would have seen the press reports of the American unofficial Food Mission which toured South India. I have seen these myself. They were very much impressed with the control and procurement of foodgrains. Rationing has undoubtedly worked well, though in some districts the ration has been very low. There is a wrong notion that the army has surplus foodstocks. As a matter of fact, there is very little the Army could do to help in this respect. The Army has in reserve about 30 days rations, which represent only 1/10th of a day's ration of the whole civil population. But whenever we have anything over and above our requirements, we place this at the disposal of civil governments and certain other organizations.

We are doing some good work in the matter of transportation. We are constructing bridges over the Tapti near Bombay and near Sulna near Vizagapatam, to enable the movement of rice from the North to Madras. As regards direct help to U.P.A.S.I., I have been able to get a certain limited quantity of foodstuffs. There is one thing which will be of interest to you and that is many R. E. store Depots will be closed towards the end of this year and members of U.P.A.S.I. by paying the actual price plus a departmental charge will be able to buy some of the stores. The stores are generally building materials, timber, angles, M.S. rods, etc. We have not got a list of stores available, but you can inform me of your needs, through your Secretary.

I wonder if I can say something about what I saw on some of the estates. It struck me when I visited some of the estates in South India—I am speaking from the food problem point of view, that possibly the army system of feeding might be an advantage. There is no doubt that hungry labour is a very healthy ground for propaganda. If you give a man his own rice it is probable that he does not find it sufficient. If all the rations



are pooled and cooked and communal feeding is adopted, the same ration would be ample. I do not know if this system could be adopted in your estates. I would also suggest to you the formation of welfare committees. We have our durbars, when the men stand up and ventilate their grievances and we have found that these committees have been invaluable in the Indian Army. I do not think I can say anything more. I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to attend your meeting and to talk to you. I very much appreciate your kindness. (Applause)

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, I may mention that this suggestion of Brig. Cooper about communal feeding is being tried out in the High Range. It is entirely a voluntary matter and started on one estate with about 50 labourers and is now supplying about 1,000 meals a day. It is still in the experimental stage. My personal view is that the system is a good one. I think the cooly will be better fed through this system than on his own individual ration. Has anybody any comments to make on this or any question to ask?

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—How long has this experiment been going on in the High Range?

The Chairman.—Closely on two months.

Mr. F. G. Wallace.—We have been experimenting with communal feeding for the last two months in the West Coast and I support you, Sir, in what you say. It is entirely satisfactory. Apart from the workers getting two really good square meals a day, in our case, they get at 6 o'clock in the morning a cup of tea and some chappattis. The meals are served, one at 12.30 p.m. and the other at 6.30 in the evening. I am perfectly satisfied that in these two months, the health of our labour has improved by over 50%. It has made a really remarkable difference in the appearance of the coolies. Of course, I must admit that perhaps the communal feeding on a rubber estate is rather different from that on a tea estate. Our resident labour force is a very small percentage of the total. The scheme has been working so well that now our local labour, that is labourers that come in every day from the villages, are now approaching us if they cannot join in this communal feeding. Whether we will be able to do so, I do not know. I am, personally, entirely satisfied with the results.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—Sir, I think it is a matter of very great interest to all of us. Could I suggest that publicity should be given to what is being done in the High Range and the Manager of that estate should be asked to write up a short article in the *Planters' Chronicle*, stating on what lines he is feeding his coolies and the amount of foodstuffs he is cooking and his experience of communal feeding. I am sure such an article will be of great assistance to all of us.

The Chairman.—I will bear that question in mind and I will ask the Manager to write an article. We are still in the experimental stage. So I cannot say too much about it. We are satisfied that it is going to be a success, but it has been suggested that it might upset the labour and that is a thing yet to be discovered.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—We may be getting good results from such an experiment at this time when food is difficult to get. My feeling is that this cannot be adopted as a permanent measure. I would welcome such an experiment from the Indian point of view. I know it is very necessary now as long as conditions are difficult. Later on as a permanent thing I would not advocate it at all. I think it would be helpful if an article is published in the *Planters' Chronicle*.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—What is the difference between this and canteen feeding?

The Chairman.—The two are quite different, Mr. Morris. Canteen feeding is run on an extra allowance of foodstuffs received from the Government. Communal feeding is just a matter of taking over the labourers' rations and cooking these for them.

Mr. C. J. Madden.—May I ask Mr. Wallace to give us an indication as to how he deals with absentee workers?

Mr. F. G. Wallace.—The worker who does not turn out for work still gets his ration. Whether a man turns out to work or not, he has got to be fed. It is only the cooking arrangement with which the estate is concerned. We have a small committee of two maistries and two tappers. Their rations are drawn in a lump from the estate stores every morning. Then at a given time, say 12.30 p.m., dinner is served to everybody on the estate, who is on the register. We do not supply anything free except to provide the Cook. At the end of every month the whole cost of the feeding plus the cost of the rations is worked out and then distributed amongst the labour force equally. At the present moment, communal feeding is run only for the resident labour force. The cost for two meals and a cup of tea and some chapatties is working out at just 6 annas per day per labourer. You should remember we are in Cochin State and paying at least double for rice. The cost may be less, I think, in other districts. Of course, our system on a rubber estate may not be quite suited to conditions on a tea estate. We have the maistry system and the maistry is entirely responsible for seeing that the worker pays his just dues.

Mr. C. J. Madden.—Thank you.

Mr. N. A. Hawke.—May I ask, how an absentee worker, who is not entitled to supplementary rations for non-working days, could be fed if you have communal feeding? A labourer gets 4 ozs. of extra food per day for every working day. How would you arrange that?

The Chairman.—We do not get any supplementary rations in Travancore for labour. So I cannot reply you on that point.

Mr. D. M. McIntyre.—I have been informed by one of the managers concerned that with communal feeding, your labour outturn is very much better than it was before. The outturn is so good that the question of feeding one or two more labourers, who are absent, or sick, just does not matter.

Several members then asked Brig. Cooper questions about procedure for procuring R.E. surplus stores and about their condition. Replying to these Brig. Cooper assured members that all stores would be serviceable and most of them unused. He was willing to consider requests for all kinds of the usual R.E. stores in small or large quantities provided these were passed to him through the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I.

The Chairman.—We are very grateful to Brig. Cooper for coming here this morning and talking to us about army surplus disposals and we are also most pleased to note the personal interest he is taking in some of our estate problems. (Hear, hear)

CONCILIATION COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—The next item in the agenda is Nos. 10 and 12. I have prepared a short note on the subject. One of the most important and urgent problems discussed by your Executive Committee is a proposal

employers' federation for planting interests in South India to deal with problems of industrial relations, trade unions and labour disputes. The Secretary prepared a note on this which has been very carefully examined by the Labour Advisory and the Executive Committees. There is, I think, probably, a unanimous agreement that the time has come to set up some organisation which will be something more than merely an advisory or recommending body, an organization that will have power to bind its members to carry out decisions regarding rates of pay and the more important labour conditions and standards, and to negotiate the settlement of labour disputes. After very lengthy discussions in both the Committees, your Committee, while accepting the principle involved, is not sure whether a separate federation would prove most suitable for this purpose. Some immediate action, however, seems to be necessary and the President has suggested that, while the wider issue of forming a federation requires further discussion, we should make an immediate approach to members asking if they are agreeable for a conciliation committee to be formed to negotiate on behalf of members in industrial disputes or strikes on the understanding that members will agree to abide by the decisions of the Committee. Your Executive Committee will be grateful if members will indicate whether or not a circular to this end should be immediately circulated to all members with a suitably large labour force. I would be very glad to hear your views on this note.

Mr. C. J. Madden.—Sir, I would ask you to call for the views of the delegates from Travancore. As I understand it the Committee will be based in Coonoor and would have to deal with possible strikes in Travancore. This, I think would be completely repugnant to the Travancore Government and I would suggest that the circular should not be sent to Travancore interests, but that it should be sent to the A.P.T., who are recognised by the Travancore Government and who could possibly put up a preliminary suggestion, which will operate in Travancore and can also be possibly linked up with Coonoor by means of an agent.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I am convinced of the desirability of having a Conciliation Committee but difficulties like the one pointed out by Mr. Madden will have to be considered. The urgency is there. Something should be done. I believe, as far as Travancore is concerned, the Association of Planters of Travancore might be asked to form a committee to deal with matters in Travancore. This committee can have representation on the Central Board of Federation here.

The Chairman.—Thank you, Mr. Thomas.

Mr. C. J. Madden.—May we have an expression of opinion from the High Range, Sir?

The Chairman.—I am in favour of the formation of this Committee to go into the matter and make a thorough investigation into it. I do not quite see the difficulty in sending the circular to Travancore as Mr. Madden sees it. It is entirely a committee for investigating into the matter and we are not going to take any action now. We are going to find if there is any desire amongst employers to go on with the matter. If there is no desire, then we are not going to move any further in the matter. As a representative from the High Range, I would be in favour of this circular being sent out to members asking for their views.

Major A. L. Hill.—Members are going to be asked to express an opinion whether a new federation is required for labour disputes. Personally I think the U.P.A.S.I.'s hands are very full with politics and scientific research. I would suggest that the Labour Department be asked to take up the matter of settling labour disputes.

The Chairman.—The proposed conciliation committee would also deal with wages and labour conditions, rates of pay and the more important labour standards.

Major A. L. Hill.—Actually any practical action that should be taken should be taken in a general way by the U.P.A.S.I. I have read through the Ceylon rules and the Secretary's note on the subject. I am inclined to think it is a good idea. A trade union would be more suitable than an incorporated body. But personally I deplore getting mixed up with this until it is a very necessary thing.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—It seems that there are two points. One is the long term policy and the other is whether immediate steps should be taken to deal with any strikes which are likely to take place in the near future. Some strikes have already taken place. At present we have no body to deal with strikes or labour disputes and I feel that there should be some form or some body which should be set up capable of handling that work on behalf of planters. I think there should be a central body in Coonoor. I think that it is also necessary to have advisory committees in different districts. I suggest that this recommendation be included in the circular to be sent. As regards the long term policy, Mr. Griffiths explained very thoroughly the legal aspect. I am in entire agreement with what he said. I think that we shall have to have a separate federation. In the meantime we can proceed with a U.P.A.S.I. Committee.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Will it not be possible to deal with labour disputes through the Labour Department, with some amendments in its Rules or things like that?

The Chairman.—This matter was thoroughly discussed by the Labour Advisory and Executive Committees. Opinion was divided as to whether the U.P.A.S.I. should take the desired action with alterations in the rules and objects of the Association. It was agreed that perhaps the best approach would be to send the circular to employers and ask for their views as to what action the Labour Advisory Committee should take. So, I think there can be no harm in sending this circular asking for your opinions and your suggestions as how to improve matters. If you find our suggestions good enough, we can proceed; if not, the matter can be dropped. I would suggest that the circular be sent out.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—There is no harm in sending out the circular.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, are you in favour of the circular being sent out?

Major A. L. Hill.—The snag with the U.P.A.S.I. is that its recommendations are not binding on the members. The new federation's decisions should be binding on its members.

The Secretary.—In sending out this circular, it has been suggested by the President that I incorporate the views expressed by members at the Labour Advisory and Executive Committee meetings. I am sure he would also like me to include Mr. Griffith's remarks.

Mr. H. Browne.—We have a meeting of our District Planters' Association next month, and it would be a good thing if the circular is sent out so that we can discuss this matter at our meeting. If the circular is sent out by the end of this month, it would be better.

The Secretary.—I will endeavour to get it out next week.

The meeting unanimously agreed to the President's suggestion that the circular be sent out.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman.—The next subject is communications. There is nothing that I have to bring up under this subject. Has any member any point to raise under this heading?

Major A. L. Hill.—We have passed many resolutions damning the condition of the Mysore and Coorg roads. I wonder if this will be a regular feature of our meetings.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I think the whole system of road control has been altered by the creation of a Highway Department, which has been taken over by the Central Government. Mr. Gerry would be able to tell us what the policy of this Department is at the moment.

Mr. H. Gerry.—I have not studied the matter very deeply. As far as I know, Madras has over 10,000 miles of highways financed partly from the Centre and partly from the Province. And the only other thing I know is part of the Premier's remarks referred to cutting down of expenditure on roads in favour of food supplies and irrigation. I think this question will be discussed by the European Group in the Assembly shortly.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—Mr. Vellingiri Gownder and I saw the Railway Board Engineering Chief about the question of constructing the Mysore-Coimbatore railway, which we considered very essential. I understand the proposal has again been shelved. I should like the meeting to pass a resolution, if possible, urging the early construction of this railway.

The Chairman.—Mr. Morris, under our new rules of procedure, it would not be in order to move urgent resolutions, unless sponsored by the Executive Committee. If you want to request the Executive Committee to move in the matter, that can be arranged.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—May I request the Executive Committee to consider the matter.

The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to include your request in the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—May I ask Mr. Gerry whether the abolition of the Road Communications Department is a temporary measure or a permanent feature?

Mr. H. Gerry.—The cutting down of expenditure on roads is only temporary until the food crisis is over. I do not know about the abolition of the Department.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS

The Chairman.—I will pass on to the election of auditors. I now move from the Chair :—

'That the present Auditors, Messrs. Fraser and Ross be elected Auditors for the current financial year, 1946-47, on a remuneration of Rs. 750.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

The Chairman.—The next item, gentlemen, is the election of President. Before going on with the election, I would mention that the new Executive Committee consists of the following members :—

Mr. H. C. Boyd.....Tea

Mr. F. G. Wallace.....Rubber

Mr. F. H. Farmer.....Immediate Past President.

The Coffee Section has not yet elected its representative.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—I have great pleasure in proposing that Mr. F. G. Wallace be elected President of the Association for the coming year.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I second it.

The Chairman.—Any other nominations for Presidentship?

There being no other nominations, the Chairman declared Mr. F. G. Wallace duly elected as President.

Mr. F. G. Wallace.—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thank you very sincerely for the honour you have done me in electing me to the chair for the coming year. I take it as a very great honour because most of you, I think, are aware that I am really a very, very young man, (*Laughter*) in fact so young that I was always referred to by your late Secretary, Col. C. H. Brock, as an young lad.

I have done most of my planting in Malaya. I am more or less a bird of passage and I do consider it a great honour that you should have asked me to take the chair. I sincerely hope that the confidence you have put in me will not be misplaced. I can promise that I will do everything I can to further the interests of the Association and to put in some really hard work. Thank you, gentlemen. (*Applause*)

The Chairman.—Before closing the meeting I would like to thank our retiring President, Mr. F. H. Farmer, whose absence here to-day we all regret. Mr. Farmer has been President of the Association during the last two years. It has been an extremely difficult time and I do not think we could have had any other man, who could have taken more personal interest in actively furthering the interests of this Association. I should like to record your thanks to him for looking after us so well. (*Applause*)

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I have very great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by our Chairman that our thanks are due to Mr. Farmer for so ably conducting the affairs of the Association and our thanks are also due to the Executive Committee and the various Section Committees. I almost thought that the Chairman of this meeting will be elected President and will occupy the chair for the coming year. I mean Mr. Boyd. But tea has had its innings. I am really glad that Rubber is having its day by the election of such an able young lad as Mr. F. G. Wallace. (*Cheers*)

Finally I would like to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. H. C. Boyd, Chairman of this meeting for conducting the proceedings to-day so very ably. I offer him my thanks. (*Applause*)

The Chairman.—Thank you very much, Mr. Thomas, for your very kind remarks.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

TEA SECTION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at Coonoor on Thursday, 6th December 1945 commencing at 2-30 p.m.

The following were present:—

MR. J. L. H. WILLIAMS (*Chairman*), MESSRS. H. C. BOYD, W. A. J. MILNER, I. W. FINLAYSON, C. M. KOTHARI, V. O. ABRAHAM AND G. R. SIMPSON (*Members of the Committee*) AND MR. W. W. MAYNE (*Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. J. E. Sampson.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO. LTD., *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. C. M. Kothari.
BOMBAY BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., *per* Mr. G. R. Simpson.
CAMERON, Mr. H. S.
CAMERON, MRS. E. G. & OTHERS, *per* Mr. E. C. Sylvester.
CEYLON LAND & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
CHANDRAMALAI ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. A. T. Rajan.
CLARKE, Mr. E. SYDENHAM.
COONOR TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
DEVARSHOLA TEA CO. LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
ESTATES & AGENCY CO. LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
FRINGFORD ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
GERRARD, Mr. E. F. H.
HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
HUNNYBUN, Mr. C. H. *per* Mr. E. H. Stanes.
KALPETTA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. E. Sampson.
LINGIAH, Mr. N.
MADRAS TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
NARAI GOWDER, Mr. K.
NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
NEW GLEN MORGAN ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
NONSUCH TEA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
PARKSIDE (NEILGHERRY) ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
PEERMADA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.
RAMANAN, Mr. C. S. V. & OTHERS, *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.
SHEVAROY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.
STANES & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. Stanes.
STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. H. B. Macpherson.
STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
TRAVANCORE RUBBER & TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
UNITED COFFEE SUPPLY CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. Stanes.
UNITED NILGIRI TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. H. Stanes.
VAGHAMON TRAVANCORE TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. A. J. Milner.
WATERFALL ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. D. C. Kothari.
WOODCOTE ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. A. S. Chunder.

VISITORS

MESSRS. E. G. CAMERON, N. G. DYSART, F. J. B. DIAPER, J. ERSKINE, H. D. HUGGINS, W. E. SCOTT AND N. J. STANES.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams, Chairman of the Tea Section Committee, presided.

The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman.—It is usual to confirm the minutes of the last meeting. These have not yet been printed.

With your permission I will take up the confirmation of these minutes at the next general meeting.

With reference to the subject which we are going to discuss, a member of the Association brought it up to the Committee and I felt that it was a subject of such importance, not in the immediate future alone, but for a long time ahead, that it was not a matter on which your Committee could take a decision. I summoned this meeting therefore in the hope that there would be a very free and full discussion on it for the guidance of your committee. I will now ask Mr. Kothari to open the discussion.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Sir, before I speak on the subject matter on the agenda, there is a small statement I want to make in connection with the last Annual General Meeting. I made a statement that some of the Sterling interests may have interests in British East African expansion or cultivation of tea. I understand now from a letter of the South Indian Association dated 26th October that the South Indian members of the Association have no

interests in the extra cultivation of tea in those areas. These members are Messrs. James Finlay and Messrs. Brooke Bond India Ltd. These misapprehensions have been removed and I am very glad to learn that they have not taken advantage of the situation.

Mr. J. E. Sampson.—As a representative here of one of the interests concerned in the reference to the British East African tea cultivation, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Kothari's withdrawal of certain remarks which he made at the end of the last general meeting. I feel that, as the result of frank discussions at the committee meeting this morning and at every meeting at all times, such misunderstandings will be removed and the Association will remain as a United Association. (*Hear, Hear.*) I thank Mr. Kothari.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams.—As a representative of the other company, I would like to associate myself with the remarks made by Mr. Sampson and thank Mr. Kothari.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, to-day we are meeting here to discuss the export policy with reference to tea. Before I go to the subject of the monopolistic buying, its disadvantages and why we should have free exports, I will refer you to the reasons why there was the imposition of a war-time ban on exports.

As you are all aware, economic warfare necessitated the conservation and careful distribution of the produce of the Allied countries. Tea was one of them and it was for this reason that the ban on the export of tea was made. The second reason was the United Kingdom felt that tea being a very useful commodity was likely to pass on to enemy countries through neutral countries, and hence it was necessary that the export of tea should be controlled by the United Nations. The need to conserve resources to meet internal consumption and the non-availability of shipping space were also important factors. At that time shipping space was not easily available and its conservation was one of the reasons why the ban was placed on the export of tea. But as you are all aware the corollary of control is rationing, plenty of forms, licences and quotas. Of course, we are all accustomed to the quotas, but there are some new forms which have been introduced during war time.

Gentlemen, I would now reason out why the ban on the export of tea should not continue. The policy of economic warfare is over because there is no war at all and that being the case, why should there be a ban on exports?

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—On a point of order, Sir, is Mr. Kothari speaking on the resolution?

The Chairman.—No, Sir. This is only an opening discussion on the policy of exports.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—The second reason why the ban on export of tea was imposed was that goods, especially tea, should not go to the neutral countries and from there to the enemy countries. As there are now no enemy countries, there is no reason why the ban on export of tea should not now go. As regards internal consumption, you are all aware that the Government of India have expressly reserved stocks for such internal consumption and exports are allowed only out of the surplus that the country does not need. In view of the above, I do not know why the exports ought not to be made free. At the same time you may ask me: Is shipping space free now? I do not say that it is. I only say that as soon as shipping space is available the ban on the export of tea should be removed, and for that I would request the Government of India to see that the earliest possible opportunity is taken to make shipping space available for tea exports.

As you are all aware about 200 commodities and products are now allowed to be exported free. No licences are required for these articles. I do not see why tea which is a surplus product in this country should not be included. My argument against the present ban on the export of tea is that to-day tea is being purchased monopolistically and I am sure that you will all agree with me that where there is monopolistic purchase there are to be found many abuses. Tea has been bought by the Ministry of Food for the United Kingdom as well as on behalf of the Allies. Now, whenever we wanted an extra cost of production allowance or an increase in the price, we have always had to meet difficulties. The Ministry of Food says that it has to consult other countries to which supplies are given as to whether the concession should be allowed or not. In the case of Travancore, for six months or so no reply was received from the Ministry of Food to the request for an increased allowance on account of extra cost of production. The reason was that the other countries to whom tea was being distributed had controlled rates and were reluctant to revise prices.

Shipping space was a handicap which we have also to consider, when considering the lifting of the ban on the export of tea. One important argument for the removal of the ban on export of tea is that monopolistic tendencies create disadvantages to the industry of the produce. These monopolistic tendencies have a reference to purchase in bulk by a certain agency and equitable distribution is prevented by the countries who purchase in bulk. The United Kingdom, through the Ministry of Food, buys our produce and the distribution is done by the U. K. to the other countries. We do not know which country gets what. You are given to understand that a certain quantity is sent to Australia or to other Dominions, or U.S.A. or U.S.S.R. We are not aware whether the people in these areas are getting the correct qualities at the correct prices. In this connection it will interest you to learn also, Sir, that distribution of tea through the Ministry of Food is made to Iran. It has taken nearly 4 years for the Ministry of Food to find out that a black market existed in Iran. A message from New Delhi dated 3rd December, in *The Mail* dated 5th December, 1945, states that Iran established monopolies, under which consumer and other goods were imported into Iran at controlled prices, and sold at black market rates. I have to submit that this might have happened in Iran in respect of tea also and it is quite possible that what happened in Iran might have happened in other countries as well. This much is certain and I hope you will all agree with me that wherever monopolistic tendencies have come to stay, practically speaking, initiative has gone. Whatever you tender is being accepted, of course subject to the approval of the Inspector and other machinery, which are not as good as the consumer, and on top of it a sort of stagnation sets in. The trade channels are disturbed and contacts are completely lost. If so, would it not be in our interests to say that the ban on export of tea may be removed so that we may have trade channels recovered, contacts renewed and that we may supply the consumer whatever quality he wants at a price which may be fair and reasonable to the consumer and the producer alike? I hope, Sir, I will speak again to you when I move the resolution in this connection.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I should like to say a few words on this subject. As Mr. Kothari has stated, the war is over, and none of us will disagree with that statement, but though the war has ended the conditions and difficulties brought about by it have by no means ended and in fact one might say they are worse than before. Regarding the question of control of exports of tea, it appears to me that one of the principal problems we ought to examine is that of supplies. Are there sufficient supplies of tea for all the consuming countries? If not, then we ought to aim at getting the best distribution possible of existing supplies, bearing in mind that for the best

prosperity of the industry a long term policy must be aimed at. We know there was over-production before the war and a great deal of trouble and expense was gone to, to extend markets and to encourage tea-drinking throughout the world. It would be bad policy to risk the loss of markets gained by so much endeavour by allowing them to go short of supplies. The Ministry of Food is the body, at present, that controls the distribution of available tea to all countries and I think it would be very bad policy to get rid of that control before there are sufficient supplies available for all markets. If control is taken away before such supplies are available there will be a scramble for the markets where prices are high to the detriment of markets where prices are not so attractive and it is possible the latter markets may be lost—a most regrettable result you will all agree. I think, therefore, before we decide to call for any change in the existing system we should find out what the Ministry of Food's intention is in regard to future contracts. Equally important is it to know what Government of India's intentions are on the matter. And last but not least I consider this question of calling for removal of export control is one that should be discussed with North India interests beforehand and then if action is agreed upon it should be joint action by North and South. The case will be much stronger if all move together. We all admit we do not like controls but control of exports of tea has been necessary during the War and has done good. I do not think the time is yet ripe for its removal. Let us go into this more carefully, consult other Associations and find out from Government of India and the Ministry of Food what their intentions are before we move further.

W. A. J. Milner.—I support Mr. Boyd's remarks in full.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—One reason put forward against the removal of controls is that undesirable competition for tea purchases will result. Mr. Boyd says that the present supply is short of demand. Can you tell us when the supply is expected to overtake the demand? How long are we to go on with the controls?

The Chairman.—I want to make it quite clear that this discussion does not cover tea control as such. This is merely a discussion as to whether we wish that the ban on exports of tea should continue or not. We are not concerned here with the Tea Control Act. I would like to invite views on that point.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Mr. Chairman, Mr. Boyd has made some remarks on this subject and Mr. Kothari's resolution. I would like to know if I can speak on Mr. Kothari's resolution as the resolution covers the same ground as his opening remarks.

The Chairman.—My idea was to open a general discussion on the subject before asking Mr. Kothari to move the resolution. You are at liberty to cover all the ground.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—My first reaction when I saw Mr. Kothari's resolution to be put to the meeting, was that I was in complete sympathy with it. On second thoughts I find that, while I am not antagonistic, we ought to give considerable thought to it before we go as far as the terms of that resolution. We all want free markets and we expect A1 prices for A1 tea and so on, but at the same time I am doubtful whether the time has yet come for free markets. It seems to me that the pre-requisite for free markets is economic stability throughout the world and at the present moment the world is completely insane. I don't think we shall find that economic stability—I am no financier—say, within the next 12 months. It may be more. If we have what I shall call 'free exports within the Indian Tea Control Act', what is the world position to be? Countries, which are in a position to pay high prices will scramble for tea, just as India is at the moment able to pay higher prices. Do we want these free exports and high prices at present quite likely to be followed by a very serious drop when the Dutch East Indies, for instance, is rehabilitated and comes into the producing sphere again and when shipping may be easy to all producing countries? I think the answer to that must be 'No'.

As Mr. Boyd said, we have to take a long term view. There is another aspect cropping up now. We may have to face wage fixation. We may have to visualise the introduction of agricultural income-tax as has been introduced in Travancore. All these things will enter into the costs production *vis-a-vis* the prices that we shall obtain in the future. I do not think, therefore, that we should bid for free exports to take advantage of high prices that may be offered to us at the moment. Now, Sir, that is a very brief examination of the world aspect. Let us turn to India. Consumption in India has gone up and I feel that it will increase still further. For one thing, the Indian soldier is now tea-minded. When he gets back home he can be expected to make his family also take to tea, which will be in the general interests of the industry. The consumption in India at the moment is roughly 100 thousand per annum and it may increase. Now if we seek additional export facilities and obtain them, what will be the immediate result? India may be temporarily short of tea and internal prices will soar. What will then happen? The Government of India will forthwith step in and endeavour to control prices. If I may again refer to Mr. Kothari's forthcoming resolution, in the second part he asks for the removal of wartime restrictions of exports 'after reserving such quantities as may be necessary for internal consumption'. Now, Sir, is not that really a form of price control?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Yes.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Now, Sir, do we want to disturb the existing system, unless there are extraordinary reasons in favour? The market in South India is not controlled by auctions, nor do I think that auctions will ever meet the South Indian buyer. We do not want to disturb the existing South Indian marketing arrangements, unless possibly by the formation of a Tea Board or a Commodity Committee, (call it what you will) which might meet our problems. To sum up; it seems to me, Sir, that under the block purchase scheme, the tea industry has retained a stability which could not otherwise have been retained. (Hear, Hear.) I feel that at the moment free exports, even within the limitations of the Indian Tea Control Act, may let loose forces on world markets which are not yet ready to receive them. I do feel that by increasing our exports we should have to face the danger of forcing the internal market. If we do, there is again the danger that consumption in India may decrease. I may reiterate, Sir, that I am not antagonistic or unsympathetic towards Mr. Kothari's resolution, but I submit that the time is not yet ripe (Hear, Hear) for free exports.

Mr. J. E. Sampson.—Mr. Chairman, I would like very strongly to support the comments made by Mr. Boyd and Mr. Pryde, on Mr. Kothari's resolution for the removal of certain restrictions at the earliest possible date. I am in agreement with that view if 'at the earliest possible date' it is understood that the utmost possible consideration is given to the matter and that the utmost possible considerations must include the fact that it may be many years before Java and Sumatra could give the world any measurable quantity of tea. The fact is that, as far as I know, the present shipping position is a doubtful quantity and I reiterate the claims put forward by those two gentlemen in respect of the necessity to consult the other planting interests, North India and Ceylon for example.



The Secretary, Sir, in a circular letter dated 1st November, has put the pros and cons of this matter with that impartiality and clarity with which his work for the Association has been characterized. (*Hear, Hear.*) I have nothing to add thereto but to emphasize the fact that the industry was maintained on an extremely sound basis during the period of hostilities, bearing in mind the tremendous difficulties to be surmounted. We cannot fail to appreciate the benefits that accrued from, in the main, the stable and satisfactory price, prompt shipment and prompt payment. (*Hear, Hear.*) I am fully of the opinion that the time is not yet ripe for a drastic change. We should rest satisfied with the existing conditions for the time being. I think there is a very real necessity for the retention of control of prices of tea until as much tea as may be required is available and when there is sufficient tea to go round. I think there is a necessity for ensuring the retention of the existing control at least for another year. I do not attempt to put any limit to it.

I recently returned from the United Kingdom and if I may be permitted, I would like to tell you the recommendations for the withdrawal of controls and the views expressed by a very large number of the British public at the conclusion of hostilities. There was impatience expressed with much force for the immediate and appreciable easing of controls in connection with a number of matters, including tea, petrol rationing, railway travelling, houses and other articles. That appreciable and immediate easing has not yet occurred in Britain and a little thought would have shown that it was not an easy matter to accomplish at a moment's notice. I offer the view that we are similarly placed in India and that we should hold our horses while we make adequate and necessary enquiries. (*Hear, Hear.*)

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Mr. Pryde said that the consumption in India was 100 thousand pounds.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—The figure should be 100 million pounds.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Actually it was a little more than 134 million pounds last year. I think the Secretary will confirm this. We should be very careful not to do anything to endanger the increased consumption in India and keep the price at a reasonable level, which we can only do if we hold a good quantity of tea in India.

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—Mr. Chairman, I do not want to anticipate Mr. Kothari's resolution, but I would like to know as to how he would ensure the necessary reservation of such quantities as may be necessary for internal consumption and how he visualises that could be achieved.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Suppose the production in India is 500 million pounds and Government estimate that the internal consumption would be 130 or 140 million pounds. The Government of India would allow export licences only for the surplus and under the Defence of India Act allot the surplus for export to the Ministry of Food. Under this arrangement the Government of India can conserve as much as is necessary for internal consumption. That is a very easy process.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I submit that is what the Government of India is doing at present.

Mr. A. T. Rajan.—Am I right in saying that the Defence of India Act will continue till the end of March 1946?

The Chairman.—There is a slight misunderstanding on this question. It will expire on 1st October, 1946, i.e. 6 months after the announcement of the termination of the emergency which will be considered as from 1st April, 1946.

The Secretary.—Under the Rules the Defence of India Act terminates six months after the announcement of the termination of hostilities or the state of emergency, which will be on 1st April. The Defence of India Act lapses on 1st October, 1946. After this period provision will be made for the continuation of certain forms of controls. Three categories of controls, however, are expected to continue and the first covers cloth and food-grains and imports, exports and foreign exchanges, and the second set relates to industrialization. The third does not concern our particular case.

The Chairman.—In view of what the Secretary has told you, it is urgent that we should give this matter full consideration and come to some decision as to what our policy should be as soon as possible, because if we do not decide by October next year when the present system will cease, it will be left to Government to revise it themselves and that may not suit us.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Sir, the Secretary said that three controls would be retained, and that one was exports.

The Secretary.—I will read out the reference in the *Capital* again: 'Three categories of controls, however, are expected to continue for some time, say for five years. They cover cloth and food-grains—control over production, distribution and prices—and imports, exports and foreign exchanges. The second set relates to industrialization—control over capital issue, licensing of industries, and movement of machinery and plant. The third set relates to resettlement of ex-servicemen.'

The point, however, is that Government will have to introduce some Act in the Legislature to implement the continuation of these controls.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—Have you any information as to when the control over shipping position may cease?

The Secretary.—Government control over shipping is by the United Nations Shipping Board. I do not know what the position is now.

The Chairman.—Any other member who would like to speak on this subject?

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Aren't you asking Mr. Kothari to move the resolution?

The Chairman.—I was about to ask Mr. Kothari to move the resolution, but before doing so, I wanted to know if there was any member who would like to speak. I will now ask Mr. Kothari to move his resolution.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—Mr. Chairman and friends, my work has become much simpler by the discussion we had before the resolution was moved. The resolution has been in your hands for some time now and I do not mean to read the resolution. I now move the resolution without any amendment. There were doubts in the minds of some of you that the intention of the resolution was to circumvent the International Tea Agreement and the Indian Tea Control Act, but let me assure you that nothing of the kind is in my mind. The resolution urges that as much export as possible will be allowed after reserving such quantity as is necessary for internal consumption. Now this means that the export release will be recommended by the International Tea Committee and the recommendation will come to the Government of India, who would say 'We want so much quantity to be reserved for internal consumption.' The balance will be the exports allowed under the Indian Tea Control

Act for which the Government of India, through the Indian Tea Licensing Committee, gives you the export quotas, perhaps in the free days, with a licence to export.

The resolution has got one advantage, gentlemen, that it does not disturb the International Tea Agreement or the Indian Tea Control Act.

Then let me come to the third advantage which we get. If the United Kingdom wants to purchase their requirements, let them purchase by all means through the Ministry of Food by open tender in India as much as possible up to the maximum which we are allowed to export. To-day the United Kingdom Ministry of Food purchases not only on account of the U.K. but also on account of other countries and Dominions and deliver the share of the bulk purchases to those countries to be distributed under their own control. If the ban on export of tea is removed, the Ministry of Food will be functioning in the country and at the same time we will also send our tea to the U.K. and to other countries. What will be the advantages? We can approach the consumer direct. The Ministry of Food distributes the bulk purchases through its agencies. The trouble with the distribution is that we do not know if cheaper or better quality tea will be preferred by the consumer. Would that not be to the advantage of the producer? I personally feel that would be in the greater interests of the producing interests.

My proposal before you, sir, is that the ban on the export of tea should be removed. Now we do not know how the distribution of bulk purchases by the Ministry of Food in the different countries is done. There is a possibility that A, who wants B.O.P., gets only fannings and B, who wants Dust gets only B.O.P. This kind of distribution results from monopoly and as some of my friends here remarked initiative is cut off and quality is deteriorating. This kind of maldistribution might be very dangerous to the habit of tea-drinking, as the consumer might dislike the qualities distributed from the bulk purchases.

On one point there is some misapprehension. There is a feeling that under my suggestion there will be increased exports. I am certain that there will be no increase in exports, because the International Tea Committee will give us a particular export allotment, which would be again controlled by the Government of India, who would, after reserving supplies for internal consumption, allow the balance only to be exported, together with any unexpired export quotas during the past years. Further there is the shipping difficulty. Exports will still be subject to shipping space available. Hence there will be no increase in exports.

There was a mention made that the present reservation of tea in the country by the Government of India meant nothing less than price control. I feel, sir, that is not the correct way of looking at it. The correct way of looking at the reservation by the Government of India for the adequate supply to the country is that the country wants so much. Having reserved adequate supplies there is no direct control at all but stable prices will prevail in the country. The bad effects of control may not be felt.

I now commend this resolution to you because it is so simple. Of course, it is in our interest that any apprehensions of excessively high prices should be removed. After all where there are free exports there will be no question of high prices as a result. Free trade channels would reduce the price. At present we do not know whether there is an adequate supply or a shortage. Under these conditions, we should look to our interests and not bother about hypothetical problems as suggested by my friends.

Sir, I will read the resolution, which I commend to your acceptance.

The resolution is:

'The General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India urges Government that war-time restrictions on exports of Tea may be removed at the earliest possible date after reserving such quantities as may be necessary for internal consumption.'

May I, sir, make a small remark. If we do not take action now, actually we shall be left in the lurch by the time the Government removes all controls and tells us: 'You take care of yourselves.' Instead of that, if we put forth our point of view now, some action might be taken in the next Central Assembly session in connection with the export quotas, if it be necessary. This will leave Government time to hear our views. What will happen in October, when the present Defence of India Act goes? With regard to any amendments to the present Controls, rules would be framed in the Assembly as suits the members of the Legislature who may not be fully aware of the difficulties which we are experiencing. We must hammer our views from to-day so that, when the time comes for the revision of controls, the Government of India, the Legislature and everybody knows what we require.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Mr. Chairman, I think it would be a great mistake if this resolution was passed to-day. As I said before, it is a matter that needs deeper consideration than has been given to it so far. I am strongly against any unilateral action by this Association in the matter. I think we ought first to discuss it with the Indian Tea Association and other major Associations, and find out from the Government of India and the Ministry of Food what their intentions are. I do not think there is any need to rush matters to-day.

I am not in favour of Mr. Kothari's resolution and if it is to be formally proposed I shall propose an amendment on the lines that his resolution as read out be referred back to the Tea Section Committee for further consideration. I think we should avoid any precipitate action.

Mr. J. E. Sampson.—I would like to endorse Mr. Boyd's comments on the resolution.

The Chairman.—There is no doubt that we all want the restrictions to be removed. But the only doubt in this matter is about the time within which it is possible. On the main principle of monopolistic buying, I do not think there is any dispute at all or any divergence of opinion. Time is the matter on which, I think, there is the main division of opinion in the meeting here. It certainly was in the Committee meeting this morning. Is there any other member who wants to comment on the amendment to the resolution?

Mr. A. T. Rajan.—Mr. Chairman, the amendment is for referring the resolution back to the Committee. I believe the Committee has discussed it fully and decided to put it before the Tea Section General Meeting. Will any purpose be served by referring it back to the Committee? I think it is a waste of time, unless something new has cropped up during this discussion. As far as I am aware there is nothing which will require the consideration of the Committee. So, I oppose the amendment.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Sir, may I say a word. The idea in referring it back to the Tea Section Committee would be to ask that Committee to get in touch with other Associations and find out their views and also to find out the views of the Government of India and the Ministry of Food. When the Tea Section Committee discussed

the matter this morning they were not in possession of the views of any of these parties. It will be the duty of the Committee, if the matter is referred back to them, to go more thoroughly into it and get in touch with those parties I have already referred to. The Committee should arrange that any action necessary should be taken by the industry as a whole. It might be remembered that there have been times when we have been critical of the I.T.A. in taking unilateral action. Let us not make the same mistake.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—The fundamental point at the Committee meeting this morning was the risk of delaying until the Government of India removed controls. I personally felt that everyone was against monopolistic control, but when the control should be relaxed was a matter of differing opinions. On that basis alone it was believed by the Tea Section Committee that if the resolution was thrown out, it will be a handle to the Government of India to do what they like and that steps should be taken as early as possible to make Government aware of the industry's views. I hope I have your permission to say that this was the main reason the Committee felt that the resolution should not be thrown out.

The Chairman.—Yes. It was made quite clear in the discussion that there was a serious danger if this resolution was thrown out that the Government of India might take the view that, on the plain face of the resolution, we are not in favour of removal of restrictions at all. That might be a possible interpretation. If the meeting is not prepared to pass the resolution now, it will be better to refer it back to the Committee and continue the discussion at the next general meeting if necessary.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—With regard to Mr. Boyd's amendment, will it not be possible to add the following 'with a strong recommendation that the control of buying be removed at the earliest possible opportunity'.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I cannot agree with Mr. Cameron's suggestion. The control of buying is not what we are discussing at the present moment. The discussion is about the removal of the ban on the exports of tea and my amendment is for referring the resolution back to the Committee. Mr. Cameron, that is, the resolution as it stands.

The Chairman.—The original resolution before this general meeting urges on Government that war-time restrictions on exports of tea may be removed at the earliest possible date after reserving such quantities as may be necessary for internal consumption. Since this resolution was moved an amendment has been proposed that this resolution should be referred back to the Committee for their consideration, so that if you do not wish to support the amendment then the resolution will be put to the vote. I think that covers your point.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Not quite, to my mind. The amendment is only a recommendation to refer the resolution back to the Committee for ascertaining the opinion of other Associations and Government. We have to bear in mind that the Government of India should not be allowed to consider, as you suggested, that we wish no change to be made. We do not want the continuation of the controls for a period longer than is necessary. I think this is the opinion of the meeting.

The Chairman.—We must take the amendment first and if that is not passed, then the resolution will come up for vote.

Mr. E. H. Stanes.—Mr. Cameron suggests that the resolution be referred back with a stronger wording from this meeting than just referring it back for consideration. I don't know what Mr. Boyd's intentions are actually in moving the amendment. Actually mere referring back might mean shelving it altogether. The amendment is, to my mind, useless if the suggestion is to shelve it. I do not know whether Mr. Boyd's intention is to shelve it. That is the general effect of the words 'for consideration'.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—If I were to accept the addition to my amendment as put forward by Mr. Cameron, I might as well let the original resolution stand.

Mr. J. E. Sampson.—The amendment to refer it back to the Committee is not to suggest that it shall be shelved. The Committee may shelve it at their own risk. I do not think there is any suggestion to shelve the matter at all.

Mr. A. T. Rajan.—The passing of the amendment might mean that the Tea Section is incompetent to pass this resolution.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—Instead of merely referring it back to the Committee we might say that we here as a body are agreed that monopolistic tendencies should be removed. While the Committee consults other associations and Government as to the appropriate time, we can at any rate make up our minds, whether we are in favour of removal of controls at the earliest possible time. The question of time, after consultations with other bodies, may be referred to this body for their consideration. I think there can be no two opinions. We are all in favour of removal of restrictions and if we are not, it is for this body to decide on the question. I think this body might agree to let the Committee consult other bodies and then refer it to this general section.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—The Tea Section Committee would of course be expected to bear in mind the remarks made at this meeting. I presume we are not giving any directions to the Committee on the way to proceed.

The Chairman.—The point at issue is that there is a feeling among some members here that it should be made clear that we are definitely in favour of restrictions on exports being removed as early as possible, irrespective of the other part of the resolution.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I would like to know if that is the feeling of the meeting.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—Would it not be better to have it recorded.

Mr. V. O. Abraham.—What Mr. Cameron meant was, if I have understood him correctly, that in referring it back to the Committee he wants to add a further direction that this meeting is of the opinion that the restriction shall be taken away or removed as soon as possible. Probably he is against restrictions. He thinks it would be better to give a direction to the Committee that it is our desire to see that these are removed as soon as possible. I do not know if I have correctly understood him.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—May I ask Mr. Kothari what he has in mind by the use of the words 'at the earliest possible opportunity'. It seems to me that the earliest possible opportunity would be 31st December 1945, when the present Ministry of Food Contract expires.

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—We are not masters regarding the exports and the supply of tea to this country itself. There are two masters as regards exports and one master as regards adequate supply in India. We want to bring to the notice of the Government of India that shipping be made free as early as possible and the restriction

exports removed. We do not mean to accomplish it to-day. It may take a year or a year and a half. By that time, as I mentioned, the Defence of India Act will go. Where shall we be if we do not bring our views to the notice of the Government of India? At least a move can be made in the matter. As you know the Government of India is very slow to take decisions.

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—The practical possibility is that it would be by the beginning of 1947, and not earlier than that.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Surely this meeting has sufficient confidence in its Tea Section Committee to know the members will remember and accept the opinions expressed at this meeting without having them put in black and white.

The Chairman.—Do you wish to move your amendment as it stands, Mr. Boyd? I think there should be some specific mention of the removal of controls. Anybody wishing to move that?

Mr. A. T. Rajan.—According to the general sense of the meeting, it is in favour of removal of controls. In referring the resolution back to the Committee we can ask the Committee to implement this decision of the General Body. I would like to know if an amendment on these lines would be acceptable to Mr. Boyd.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—I agree to adding the words: 'bearing in mind the opinions respecting the removal of controls expressed at this meeting'.

Mr. W. A. J. Milner.—I want to make it perfectly clear that this meeting is divided on this question. We should have no confusion about it. I am sure the Tea Section Committee would vote if they think it sound to do so. The Committee do not think it sound to do so now.

The Chairman.—There is not a very great divergence of opinion. The point I want to clear up is that the meeting is in favour of removal of restrictions. The divergence is on the question as to when it can be done. That is not sufficiently emphasized in the opinion of some members in the proposed amendment. (*Hear, Hear.*)

The Chairman.—Anybody seconding the amendment?

Mr. G. R. Simpson.—I second it.

The Secretary.—The amendment now reads as follows: 'That Mr. Kothari's resolution reading "The General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India urges Government that war-time restrictions on exports of tea may be removed at the earliest possible date after reserving such quantities as may be necessary for internal consumption" be referred back to the Tea Section Committee for further consideration, bearing in mind the feeling of the General Meeting that the early abolition of controls is very desirable.'

The Chairman.—May I know who is seconding the main resolution?

Mr. D. C. Kothari.—I second it.

The Chairman put the amendment proposed by Mr. H. C. Boyd and seconded by Mr. G. R. Simpson to the meeting.

The amendment was carried *nem con.*

Mr. C. M. Kothari.—I propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for conducting the meeting in a constitutional manner.

The Chairman.—There being no other item on the agenda, I now declare the meeting closed.

TEA SECTION GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at Coonoor on Thursday, 28th March 1946, commencing at 12 noon.

The following were present:—

MR. J. L. H. WILLIAMS (*Chairman*), **MESSRS. H. C. BOYD, V. O. ABRAHAM, G. R. SIMPSON AND I. W. FINLAYSON** (*Members of the Committee*), **MR. W. W. MAYNE** (*Secretary*) AND **MR. L. E. MITCHELL** (*Secretary-Designate*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

ARUNACHALAM CHETTIAR, O. A. P. R. M. *per* **Mr. P. M. Belliappa.**
AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO. LTD., AND KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* **Mr. J. E. Sampson.**
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., *per* **Mr. H. C. Boyd.**
BISSET, MR. F., PULLIKANAM TEA ESTATES LTD., AND MR. R. P. ROISSIER, *per* **Mr. M. R. Coghlan.**
BOMBAY BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., *per* **Mr. G. R. Simpson.**
CAMERON, MRS. E. G. & OTHERS, *per* **Mr. E. C. Sylvester.**
CLARKE, MR. E. SYDENHAM, ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., HAWKE, MR. L. A., KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES LTD., LESLIE, MR. A. W., MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD., MLAMALLAY TEA ESTATES LTD., MOORE, MR. R. J. A., MORRIS, MR. R. C., SCOTT, MR. W. P., AND THOMAS, MR. M. A. *per* **Mr. F. H. Farmer.**
FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD., HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., KALPETTA ESTATES LTD., MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD., NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD., NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., AND SHEVAROY ESTATES LTD., *per* **Mr. V. O. Abraham.**
HAILLYBURIA TEA ESTATES LTD., PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD., POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD., TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD., AND VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., *per* **Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.**
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* **Mr. I. W. Finlayson.**
RAMANAN, MR. C. V. S. & OTHERS, *per* **Mr. N. B. Athrey.**
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.
STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES LTD., DEVARSHOLA TEA CO., LTD., THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., AND WILSON, MRS. J. T. F., *per* **Mr. J. L. H. Williams.**



ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE per Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
KANAN DEVANS per Mr. H. C. Boyd.
NILGIRIS, per Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

VISITORS

Messrs. E. G. Cameron, H. Gerry, H. B. Macpherson and J. S. Yesuthasan.

Mr. J. L. H. Williams, Chairman of the Tea Section Committee, presided.
At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary read the Notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is to confirm the proceedings of two previous meetings: one held on 16th August 1945 and the other on 6th December 1945. The minutes of the meeting held on 16th August are with the printers and owing to delay in printing they are not available yet. A summary of these minutes has been printed in the *Chronicle* and with your permission I would like to confirm the minutes as printed in the *Planters' Chronicle*. As regards the proceedings of the meeting held on 6th December 1945, a summary was published in the *Chronicle* and the full proceedings are now in your hands. Have I your permission to confirm the proceedings?

Permission being given, the proceedings were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

BUDGET, 1946-47

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is to fix the Product Cess for the year 1946-47.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, will it not be right to consider the Budget in the first place before the consideration of the Product Cess.

The Chairman.—Quite right. You have got a copy of the Budget. There are one or two small points on which I would like to say a few words. There has been some discussion amongst your Committee as to the future of the Scientific Department. There has been a feeling that the present Scientific Department is not exactly what we want and the scale on which it has been run does not now fulfil the requirements of the tea industry in South India, and something considerably bigger with more equipment and run on a more efficient scale is required. Your Committee has discussed this at considerable length and Mr. Mayne is preparing a memorandum on the subject which will set forth alternative proposals to the existing organisation. That will be sent round to all members of the Tea Section inviting their opinions on it. In the meantime it was decided to carry on as we are and to offer Mr. Manning an agreement on the same lines as before. He is to be told at the same time—as we consider that he should know—that proposals for the reorganisation of the Scientific Department are being discussed. Until that memorandum is circulated to everybody I do not think there is anything very much to discuss further on that question.

The Scientific Officer's salary has been based on the supposition that he will come back to us on an agreement on the same lines as before. If Mr. Mayne recommends that the present station is not exactly what is wanted, it will mean a considerable increase in budgetary expenditure, but we can deal with that when the report is available.

The only other point which I have to mention with regard to the budget is the provision for members' expenses in attending meetings. Your Executive Committee discussed this subject some months ago and it was decided then that with an increasing number of conferences likely to take place—some have already taken place—it was only fair to charge the expenditure on these conferences to the product sections concerned and not to the Association's general accounts. It was therefore decided by your Executive Committee that from this year, the Sections should budget for their own meetings expenditure. Has anybody any queries on the subject?

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, it is proposed that the product cess for the coming year should be at the rate of 4 annas 9 pies per acre. The additional 9 pies will bring in an additional income on the present subscribing acreage of approximately Rs. 6,700. This will not quite cover the deficit of Rs. 7,500. It will leave a budgetary deficit of about Rs. 800.

If there are no questions on the budget, I will now propose from the Chair:—

'That the Tea Scientific Section Budget for the Financial year 1st April 1946-31st March 1947, as approved by this meeting be passed.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

The Chairman.—I will now move the resolution relating to Product Cess:—

'That in accordance with Rule 13 (a), the Tea Product Cess for the Financial year, 1st April 1946-31st March 1947, to be collected from each ordinary member of the Association liable to pay such Cess, shall be at the rate of four annas and nine pies per acre.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

FUTURE TEA EXPORT POLICY

The Chairman.—Before going on to 'Any Other Business', there is an additional item on the agenda—future tea export policy. This item has been put on the agenda as a result of the resolution which was passed at the last Extraordinary General Meeting and I think it is desirable that this General Meeting should be acquainted with what has happened since then. Your Committee acquainted the Indian Tea Association with their views and also the South Indian Association in London. The I.T.A., Calcutta, and the S.I.A., London, are agreed

that removal of control is desirable as soon as possible. But they are also agreed that such a course is not practicable now, and they are both in favour of the existing block purchase scheme continuing for 1946. The Government of India have suggested two modifications to the Ministry of Food for the 1946 contract, and I would like to make it clear here that these modifications were suggested by the Government of India without reference to the opinions either of the Indian Tea Association or ourselves. The original suggestions may have come from the Government of India or presumably the Government of India have gone to other sources for them. We have no information as to how and on what they have based the suggestions. Their suggestions are:—

- (1) To provide for the termination of the contract in mid-season if conditions of supply warrant it, and
- (2) for contracting parties to be allowed to withdraw from their contracts such teas as they might wish to dispose of privately during the term of the contract.

These two suggestions were put up by the Government of India to the Food Ministry. They were opposed by the Food Minister for obvious reasons. The Minister thought that the Ministry of Food could not, from his point of view, enter into a contract which was not certain to be fulfilled. If either or both of those proposals were adopted his contract might become quite useless to him in mid-season. In addition to that, the I.T.A. put up a proposal to Government themselves and we have seen a copy of the letter sent to Government by them. They start off by saying that though they wish to continue as at present under the block purchase scheme without any alteration, they would offer as an alternative to these two suggestions of the Government of India another suggestion, which is to allow importers in consuming countries to have contracts with exporters and to apply for their share of the allotment made by the Combined Food Board to their country. The I.T.A. suggest that those who may have contact abroad would apply for the appropriate amount of the allotted quota from Indian supplies and that the Tea Controller in India should be empowered to issue permits for direct exports up to the amount covered by the quota, directly from the producer to the exporter. I would say here that this, to some extent, is already being done with imports into the U.S.A. The U.S.A. Government have refused to carry on direct purchases with the British Government, and this system, which is proposed as an alternative by the Indian Tea Association, will shortly be in operation as far as U.S.A. imports are concerned. The majority of the Committee feel it is impracticable to alter the existing system at present but they also feel that controls should be removed as soon as practicable. The question is: Do we want to support the Government proposals or do we want to support the I.T.A. alternative?

I think, in regard to the Government proposals, the first one—to provide for the termination of the contract in mid-season if conditions warrant it—is quite obviously impossible. There is no indication whatsoever that conditions of supply will produce a surplus of tea for many years to come—10 or even more years. They won't warrant it. There are obvious dangers in the alteration of the present conditions at the moment. If we had completely uncontrolled exports, there would be scramble for exports to countries where there is no control of price and you would have the tea diverted at the expense of some of our best consumers who gave support for many years. I think everybody is agreed that it would be bad business to upset our best established customers. I have nothing more to remark on the subject. I would like to discuss this and have your opinion on the summary which I have just given you. If the meeting likes to express a definite view on the subject it can be recorded.

Mr. V. O. Abraham.—The present question before us is with regard to export restrictions being taken away. There are differences of opinion among the planters whether the export restrictions should be taken away or not. I can say that the feeling among Indian planters is that, not only the export policy but also the planting restrictions should be removed. In course of time, I am afraid, with the Government changes, probably all these restrictions will be taken away. The International Tea Agreement itself will go because of the unfair treatment accorded to India. Look at the extension granted to Ceylon of 15,000 acres and the extension granted to India with an area of 840,000 acres of 2,400 acres. On the other hand Ceylon got 15,000 acres on the grounds that they slaughter tapped some rubber.

The Chairman.—Mr. Abraham, your remarks hardly apply to the subject now under discussion.

Mr. V. O. Abraham.—I thank you. This is only a sort of preliminary to what I am going to say on the subject. The question is that there is a feeling that all these restrictions should go, not only export restrictions. The International Tea Agreement will have to go and other restrictions in so far as new planting in India will also go. Therefore, it is better that we now express our view that at least export restrictions should be removed as soon as possible. Before Government removes all these restrictions, we should be pioneers in suggesting that export restrictions should be removed.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Mr. Chairman, can you tell us how Government came to consider the modifications in the coming season's export quota without reference to the Indian Tea Association and the U.P.A.S.I.?

The Chairman.—I am afraid I cannot give information on it, Mr. Farmer. All we know is that they have put forward these modifications. Government are not bound to hear any information or to disclose what they based their information on. I was told by the Tea Controller who was with us here recently that this matter has not yet been finally disposed of. It is still under discussion with His Majesty's Government and the Government of India. I am afraid I am unable to give you any more information on the subject either. It is quite obvious that they have not proceeded entirely on the advice of the I.T.A. and ourselves.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad the matter is not settled. I should like to ask the Association to press this point with the Government of India and to inquire from them their reasons for making these suggestions without reference to us. I should also like to know the opinion of the meeting on these proposals which were put forward by the Government of India and are still unsettled. I myself think that they will interfere with the current season's export contract and I do not think they are in the interests of the industry.

The Chairman.—The Indian Tea Association's opinion is much the same and they wrote to the Government of India that they did not agree with these two propositions. They are strongly in favour of leaving the contract as it is for 1946. So far the only concrete fact that has come from Government is that there will be a 1946 contract. We have not received anything further than that.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—What we should press with the Government of India is that, if there is going to be any relaxation or removal of export controls, they should give the industry plenty of time before any such removal takes place so that we can plan our future actions. This is most essential.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—Mr. Chairman, in the case of teas being exported privately, on the basis of quotas being allotted as suggested, what will be the shipping position, and the attendant troubles? Will shipping space be available to export teas privately?

The Chairman.—I cannot give you a direct answer to that, Mr. Cameron. The shipping position has eased from what it was when we met here last. Presumably private exporters will have to make their own arrangements for shipping space. I do not think there will be any difficulty myself, but I have got no facts on which to base my answer.

Mr. G. R. Simpson.—You said that the American Government is getting tea direct from India. What is the procedure adopted?

The Chairman.—Well, it has not yet come into operation. This suggestion came from the I.T.A. that if there is any modification necessary at the present time, it should be adopted for other places. The American Government have now said that they are not allowed, under United States law, to buy goods in bulk and that the purchase must be made by the American tea importers. We have not yet received full details, but we imagine that the procedure will be that importers in America will receive a quota from the total United States allotment of tea. They will then get into touch with exporters either in India or in Ceylon or in any other tea producing country. They will ask the exporter to provide a certain amount of tea. The exporter will then contact the Tea Controller saying that he has received this enquiry and the Tea Controller will then allot him a quota which he will be permitted to export to the United States. I think the price will have to be the Ministry of Food price for tea sold in America based on the American ceiling prices at which tea is sold in America. That appears to be the sort of procedure which is likely to be adopted after 31st March 1946. We have not got full details of how it is to function.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—I think that the allotment to be made by the Tea Controller would be from the total exports from India. In other words it would come out of the total export to the Ministry of Food.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—In regard to the second suggestion made by Government about the possible stopping of bulk purchases in the middle of the season, you pointed out that conditions of supply of tea won't justify it for 10 or 15 years. Who is to be judge of that? Can we get a guarantee from Government that we should be consulted about when market conditions justify such action? Is there anything to stop Government from doing it? There is a loophole there and it may be used as an excuse.

The Chairman.—It is a question of supply and demand. There is no prospect for many years to come of the supply being anything like meeting world demand. I do not think that Government can argue on that point.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Do they stress the question of supply justifying it?

The Chairman.—All they say in their statement is that when conditions justify them. They leave it at that.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—This is a loophole for them to take advantage of whenever they want to, without any reason and without consulting us.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Is there any specific mention of conditions of supply?

The Chairman.—There is no mention of conditions of supply. The actual wording in the letter is 'should other reasons justify'.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—In that case, it is definitely Government's endeavour to make a loophole to cancel the contract when they want to. We must guard against it.

The Secretary.—Gentlemen, there is one point which I want to make clear. So far, we understand that the Ministry of Food will not accept termination of the contract in mid-season. I may also say that our source of information about the Government's proposals was the S.I.A. and the I.T.A. who presumably received the information in the same way as we received it—from London.

Mr. E. G. Cameron.—If the termination of this agreement is to take place in mid-season, is it suggested that there will be any period of time as notice of termination? Or will it be only 24 hours' notice?

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, I would like to know quite clearly what everybody's ideas are on the subject. I would like to have, as far as possible, clear-cut opinions on the three alternatives which I am going to put to you now. You should say whether you agree or do not agree with the alternative proposals. I take it from the comments that have been made that the meeting agrees that it is desirable to remove restrictions on exports as soon as it is practicable to do so. I take it that that is accepted by the meeting. *(The meeting agreed to this by a show of hands.)*

That having been agreed upon, I would like to have some expression of opinion on the alternative proposals for the assistance of your Committee. This is a very difficult question to deal with as the position is changing from day to day. But your opinions will give a concrete basis for the Committee to work on and come to a decision. So I would like to ask you whether or not you agree with the proposals which I will put to you one after the other. The first one is as follows: The Government of India have suggested provision for the termination of the contract in mid-season if conditions warrant it. Do you agree with that?

The meeting voted against the proposal by a show of hands.

The second one is: The Government of India have suggested that contracting estates should be able to withdraw from their contracts such teas as they might wish to dispose of privately in other markets. This would enable estates to withdraw all their best teas from the Contract if permitted to do so, and to export them to America or elsewhere, and the Tea Controller would have to be content with comparatively unwanted teas. From your point of view, is this proposal desirable or not?

The Secretary.—In certain cases, Government could insist on carrying out the full contract.

The Chairman.—I do not think this alternative is sound. It is not good to withdraw from what you have contracted for. If you contract then you must keep to your contract.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—How is the position of American supplies to be covered if these proposals are accepted?

The Chairman.—It is not yet definite whether they will have to withdraw from the contract. They can only be allowed to withdraw to the extent of the American quota from the total exports which go into the Pool under the block purchase scheme. I think they can withdraw only to that extent. If an estate owner wanted to withdraw to that extent he could do so. He would also have to get permission to set this off against the allotment made to whatever country he wants to send his tea.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—May I suggest in this connection that if a contracting party withdraws their good teas and offers their poor teas to the Tea Controller, there would be an unpleasant argument at a subsequent date.

The Chairman.—That is quite possible. I would like to have your expression of opinion on whether you agree that contracting estates should be able to withdraw from their contracts such teas that they wish to dispose of privately in out-markets.

The proposal was rejected by 11 votes to 3 votes.

The Chairman.—You have expressed your very strong opinion against the modifications proposed by the Government of India. Now we are left with the third alternative suggested by the Indian Tea Association. This is merely put as an alternative. They have put it in a way that, if we have to have removal of control now, this removal should be in this form, that importers who have made contracts with producers should be allowed to apply for their quota of allotments from the pool of the Combined Food Board and from the Tea Controller in India, who would issue permits for direct exports of allotments covered by the allotment from the contract with the U.K. Will you agree with that as an alternative? To make the matter quite clear, gentlemen, I will read out to you the letter which has been addressed by the Chairman of the I.T.A. Calcutta to Mr. Y. N. Sukthankar on the subject :

‘ If it is the wish of the Government of India, as it appears to be, that the exports to any particular country should be open to any exporter, the following procedure might be adopted :—

- (1) Issue of import licences by the Government of the importing country to individual importers.
- (2) The Government concerned will acquaint the Tea Controller for India with details of the import licences issued—the total poundage covered by these equalling the Combined Food Board quota of that country.
- (3) The importer will instruct his selected exporter in this country to obtain from the Tea Controller an allocation of tea against his licence and to ship the tea.
- (4) The exporter will then apply to the Tea Controller for an allocation of tea which will be made to him after verification of the licence. The delivery order for the tea will then be issued to the exporter against payment.
- (5) The allocation of all tea will continue to be made by the Selection and Allocation Panels of the Tea Controller and will be made on the basis of each importing country. The sub-allocation to individual exporters will be by ballot and the exporter must take up and pay promptly for every tea allocated to him.’

That is the I.T.A. alternative proposal. It has simplified matters. Do you agree with that proposal or not ?

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—As far as it is covered by the Ministry of Food’s contract, that is understood. There is one point which requires a little explanation. In this particular proposal of the I.T.A., it is not the producer but the exporter who is to apply for an allocation. The importer cannot be certain of getting the quality of tea that is required. He must take what the exporter has been allocated to export by the Joint panel. There is no panel for selection and allocation in South India.

The Chairman.—Has any member any further comments to make ?

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—This proposal does not appear to be good unless the producer happens to be the exporter, which presumably is desirable. The contract will be made by the exporter and there is nothing to stop the exporter making direct contacts. The approach to the U.S.A. should be initiated by him as a producer.

The Chairman.—According to this proposal there is nothing to stop it, but there is nothing in the proposal to ensure that your trade contacts will be satisfied. You can send only those teas that have been allotted to you by the panel.

The Secretary.—It may not be your tea as producer. It may be somebody else’s. One cannot submit his samples and say that ‘ I am going to supply you tea as per samples.’ One would not know what tea would be allotted by the panel. That is one point where the I.T.A.’s suggestion does not seem to assist producer-exporter.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—There would appear to be no adequate incentive to go through this elaborate procedure.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—It does not seem to help contacts between the producer and the direct importer in U.S.A. If we want to make contacts with outside markets, there is no guarantee, even if we make contacts, that we are going to supply the U.S.A. markets with our own teas. It seems to me that the complicated procedure put forward is not going to help us to obtain a better price or better marketing. It will only complicate matters.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Would it be within the province of the importer to specify that he wants a particular quality at a particular price ?

The Chairman.—He could say so, but one cannot say whether he will get what he wants. I suppose there is nothing to stop him from saying what he wants. There is also nothing to stop him from refusing on the ground that he wants a particular quality. I admit this seems to be rather indefinite and I think the I.T.A. will probably agree that this is so. This proposal was merely put up as an alternative to Government’s suggestions. This discussion will give your Committee something on which to work.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—I am in agreement with Mr. Pryde’s and Mr. Finlayson’s opinions that this proposal is not advantageous. I think it is agreed that we should not tinker with the present arrangements for the time being. I think also that we do not agree with the modifications the Government of India have suggested and furthermore the opinion of this meeting is that export controls should cease as soon as practicable. Well, let us fix a date in the future when it seems practicable and leave it clearly at that without tinkering about with it now. This will be much more satisfactory to exporters and producers generally. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. Gerry.—I don’t see why we should make any change in the method of U.S.A. buying and allow them to buy direct instead of from the block purchase.

The Chairman.—Mr. Gerry, it is neither the Food Ministry nor ourselves who put up the idea first. It is America, who said that ‘ we are not going to continue the present method of buying from the block’. Whether we like it or not, they refuse to go on with monopoly purchase.

Mr. H. Gerry.—It does not seem to be in the best interests. Unless the importer can insist on getting what he wants, I don’t think it is worth while doing anything.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I think the idea on the whole seems sound, in that a producer can get an allotment if he wants to supply his teas to America. If he has got an importer in a country can he not get the importer to get an import quota at his end and then take that amount to the Food Controller and ship it direct from his own tea ?

The Chairman.—That would meet our needs in South India much better than the I.T.A. suggestion as it stands. The question is do you want to tinker with the present system of block purchase, as Mr. Farmer says.

Mr. I. W. Finlayson.—Mr. Farmer said that we should fix the date, as to when the controls should be removed. I do not think any one is competent to say when the practical conditions will permit the controls being removed. There is a shortage of tea and control must remain until supply equals demand. If controls are removed, we will be left in chaos.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.—I meant the industry as a whole and not the Association.

The Chairman.—As matters stand, the industry as a whole—the South Indian Association in London, the Indian Tea Association and ourselves—have expressed the opinion that it is not practicable at the present moment.

I think it is now clear that the meeting definitely does not approve of the I.T.A.'s alternative suggestion as it stands. Can I take it that it is so?

The discussion we have had will help your Committee and provide very good grounds on which to work. Thank you for your views on the subject. Has any other gentlemen any other business to bring up?

The Chairman.—I have one more remark to make. I think it will interest you to hear that your Committee had the pleasure of meeting Mr. P. G. Edwards, Chairman of the South Indian Association, London. He, unfortunately, has not been able to be present here today. But your Committee and I had discussions with him at our Committee meeting. These were extremely useful and very helpful. He was able to assess the point of view, which is not generally appreciated in London, that conditions out here have changed and are changing very rapidly and we felt that was why for some time London was not keeping pace with us. Mr. Edwards' presence at our Committee meeting was definitely helpful from that point of view alone. He gave us some interesting opinions, one of which is a point in which I know Mr. Abraham is interested. That is the removal of restrictions on new planting. I would emphasize that this was merely an expression of his own personal opinion and Mr. Abraham will probably express his own opinion. Mr. Edwards stated that he thought it was absolutely necessary that there should be no further restrictions on planting and he held the opinion that in a very short time the Governments concerned, in particular the Indian Government, would not agree to the continuation of the International Tea Agreement. One of his main arguments was that any form of restriction which was imposed by a body of producers only was very much against present-day thought and had no chance of success in getting support from any Government. I thought it will interest you to know these opinions which I also hold. I personally think it is extremely likely that, when we get the new Government in this country, they will not consent to keep the Act as it stands and we may get a removal of the ban on planting some considerable time before the expiration of the Act. Your Committee decided, in view of these considerations, to send a circular round to all interests, expressing the opinion that an immediate release up to 10% of the existing acreage was desirable. That circular will come round to you in due course for your opinion. Would you like to say anything, Mr. Abraham?

Mr. V. O. Abraham.—With reference to restriction on planting, there are certain reasons which make us think that India has not been fairly treated. Take one instance. Under the Indian Tea Control Act there are certain restrictions under which only people who have less than 150 acres and companies with less than 300 acres can apply for extension of their tea areas. An application was made in September 1943 for extension. It was never disposed of. It was disposed of in 1946, giving a further restriction that this permit is only valid up to March 1947. Can any practical planter make use of such an allotment. These restrictions and delays are quite unnecessary and not in keeping with the objects of the I.T.L.C. If the application was sanctioned and a quota allotted in 1943, the new planting would be now three years old.

There is still another point, which I wish to point out. In 1943, Rule 4 of the Indian Tea Control Act was amended. The I.T.L.C. never circulated this information to the tea estates—that tea estates can make an application and claim more quota under this amendment. What they did was to publish a notification which appeared in the *Planters' Chronicle*, saying that Rule No. 4 has been amended. Every planter is not a subscriber to the *Planters' Chronicle*. The I.T.L.C. failed to circularise all tea estates that they had a further claim under the amendment. I am voicing only the feeling that is prevalent among tea planters. It is that the I.T.L.C. are not helping the tea industry.

Speaking of the bigger question of International Tea Agreement, etc., naturally, in course of time, all these restrictions will go. I do not think that even the Tea Control Act will last until the end of 1948. It may go earlier.

The Chairman.—I have now an unpleasant duty and that is to say goodbye to Mr. Mayne. Most of you were present at the Coffee Section Meeting this morning. Mr. Sprott has already said all that I wished to say in this Tea Section meeting. The Coffee Section have had a much longer and more intimate connection with Mr. Mayne than we have. Ever since the time we had direct contact with his work, he has carried on his shoulders the Coffee Scientific Department, the Tea Scientific Department and for the past three years the secretaryship of the U.P.A.S.I. During that time, I have had a lot of personal contacts with Mr. Mayne and I am sure everybody who has been in the same position will gladly agree with me when I say that it is impossible to have had anybody more helpful. What we would have done without him I do not know. (Hear, hear.) (Applause). I would like to ask you to endorse all the remarks that Mr. Sprott made about Mr. Mayne and to wish him and Mrs. Mayne a very happy time in their new life in the High Range. (Applause.)

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thank you very much indeed for your kind words. As I told the Coffee Section meeting this morning, I have thoroughly enjoyed my service with the Association and I shall not forget it. During the last three years I have had some heavy work but I am very glad to have been able to take it on. I felt that the work I did from 1941 was part of my war effort. It was undoubtedly heavier than I expected, and lasted for a longer time than I expected. When I took up the post of Secretary, I said that I would carry on until I begin to lose sleep over it! I am glad that during these 3 years, thanks very largely to the great help from the Committee members and the Section Chairmen, I have not suffered seriously in this respect and have on the whole enjoyed my work. Again I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind words. I hope that my change of employment will not be a complete break with the many friends that I have made with the Association. (Applause.)

The Chairman.—I now declare the meeting closed.



U.P.A.S.I. TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

CSL

Draft Budget for 1946-47

EXPENDITURE										Rs. A. P.		
ESTABLISHMENT												
<i>European Staff :—</i>												
Scientific Officer—Salary	1,000	×	6									
"	1,050	×	6									
" Car & Serv. Alloce.	90	×	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,840	0	0
<i>Indian Staff :—</i>												
Entomologist	315	×	12									
Mycologist	315	×	12									
Soil Chemist	260	×	12									
Clerk	60	×	12									
Lab. Attenders (2)	42	×	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,904	0	0
Dearness Allowance	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	4,440	0	0
Allowance to Officer-in-charge	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	150	0	0
<i>General :—</i>												
Stationery, Postages and Telegrams	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	400	0	0
Reports and Bulletins	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	150	0	0
Library and Periodicals	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	250	0	0
Assessments and Rents	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	253	0	0
Medical expenses and subscriptions	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	250	0	0
Travelling—touring..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000	0	0
Miscellaneous transport	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	50	0	0
Incidentals	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	86	0	0
Upkeep—Buildings..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	400	0	0
"—Furniture	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	100	0	0
Laboratory works and expenditure	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	0	0
Field works and experiments	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	3,500	0	0
Bungalow Watcher	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	216	0	0
Grain and Provision allowance	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	1,400	0	0
Water supply	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	100	0	0
Lighting and Plant	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	400	0	0
Committee Meetings	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	300	0	0
Manuring	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	750	0	0
<i>Secretarial Office :—</i>												
Provident Fund contribution (10% of pay)..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	2,420	0	0
Furlough and Passage Fund	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	700	0	0
Depreciation	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	6,050	0	0
Insurance	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	190	0	0
Investigation into Chemistry of Tea	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	500	0	0
Total										51,299	0	0
INCOME										Rs. A. P.		
Cess on 1,44,235 acres @ 4 as.	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	36,059	0	0
Madras Government Grant	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	6,875	0	0
Sale of Publications	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	66	0	0
Sale of tea and Quota 36,000 @ 2 annas	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	4,600	0	0
Lighting Refund	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	100	0	0
Plucking Refund	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	50	0	0
Total										47,750	0	0
Excess of Expenditure over Income										3,549	0	0
<i>Meetings :—</i>												
Tea Section Committee Meetings	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	4,000	0	0

U.P.A.S.I. TEA SECTION

REPORT OF THE TEA SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

I. TEA SECTION

1. **Membership.**—There was a further increase in the membership of the Section during the year, the acreage having risen from 145,915 acres to 146,808. Out of 178 members, 132 owning 143,893 acres paid the cess for the maintenance of the Tea Scientific Section.

2. **Committees—Tea Section Committee.**—The following assumed office of the Tea Section Committee at the close of the Annual General Meeting last August :—Messrs. J. L. H. Williams, H. C. Boyd, I. W. Finlayson, W. A. J. Milner, C. M. Kothari, V. O. Abraham and T. Davenport. Mr. J. L. H. Williams was elected Chairman for the year. Mr. Davenport resigned during the year and the Committee co-opted Mr. G. R. Simpson in his place. Mr. Milner resigned his seat in March 1946, owing to his departure to U.K., and the vacancy has not yet been filled. In June 1946, Mr. Williams resigned from the Committee owing to ill-health and his impending departure to the U.K. In his place Mr. Boyd was elected as Chairman.

Tea Scientific Sub-Committee.—Messrs. I. W. Finlayson and C. M. Kothari were appointed members of the Tea Scientific Sub-Committee.

Indian Tea Licensing Committee.—Messrs. J. S. Wilkie, J. L. H. Williams and C. M. Kothari continued to represent U.P.A.S.I. on this Committee. In June 1946 Mr. Williams resigned his seat and his place has been filled by Mr. Boyd.

Indian Tea Market Expansion Board and Advisory Committee for South India.—Messrs. Milner and Williams represented the U.P.A.S.I. on this Board. On their resignations, Messrs. Abraham and Boyd were appointed to take their seats.

3. **Meetings.**—Two general meetings of the Section were held: one on December 6, 1945, to consider the tea export policy, and the other on March 28, 1946, to consider the Budget. The Committee held three meetings during the year.

4. **Tea Section Reserve.**—To the sum of Rs. 41,147-3-2 brought forward in the Tea Section Reserve Account on 1-4-1945 interest amounting to Rs. 1,929-5-0 was added during the year. Withdrawals from the Reserve amounted to Rs. 1,250 for payment of the proportionate expenditure of the Indian Tea Association Iron and Steel Control Department. This brought the balance in this Reserve to Rs. 41,826-8-2 on March 31, 1946.

II. TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

5. **Administration and Staff.**—Mr. W. W. Mayne, the Coffee Scientific Officer, continued, as previously, to visit and supervise the work of the Tea Experiment Station which remained in the charge of the Entomologist, Mr. S. Ananda Rau. Mr. J. D. Manning, the Tea Scientific Officer, who has returned from War Service, is now in the U.K. undergoing a refresher course at Rothamstead.

6. **Accounts, 1945-46.**—The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 46,380-2-2 and the income Rs. 47,732-7-3. The excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 1,352-5-1 was, as usual, transferred to the Tea Scientific Section Fund which has a balance of Rs. 30,482-12-2 to its credit on March 31, 1946.

7. **Budget, 1946-47.**—The estimated expenditure for the current year amounts to Rs. 55,299 and the income Rs. 54,511, leaving an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 788.

8. **Investigation into the Chemistry of Tea.**—As in previous years a sum of Rs. 500 was contributed as a token grant towards the scheme of investigation into the chemistry of tea carried out in London by Dr. A. E. Bradfield under the supervision of Dr. A. H. Lampitt.

III. TEA CONTRACTS WITH MINISTRY OF FOOD

9. **1945 Contract.**—The 'Invitation to Offer' was issued to all estates in South India on March 12, 1945. The allowance for increased cost of production was fixed at 5½d. per lb. Tea estates in Travancore, however, made a strong representation that in view of the higher cost of food grains in the State, they should be eligible for a higher cost of production allowance. After protracted negotiations the Ministry of Food agreed to pay an extra 1d. per lb. in respect of Travancore teas delivered on and after 10th June, though it declined to make such increase retrospective to the beginning of 1945.

Early in 1946 it was announced that the Government of India was issuing a supplementary contract for 1945 for 15 million pounds. No offers, however, were made by estates in S. India towards this contract, in view of the general shortage of crops in the latter half of the year and the high prices prevailing in the internal market.

10. **1946 Contract.**—The British Food Ministry's proposal for a 1946 Tea Contract was conveyed to the Association towards the close of 1945 with the recommendation that its terms remain the same as for the 1945 contract. Full information regarding cost of production was obtained from certain representative estates including Travancore, and forwarded to the Tea Controller for consideration. The Ministry in the meantime proposed that pending further consideration, the cost of production allowance be fixed at 6d. and 5½d. per lb. for estates situated in Travancore and the rest of South India respectively. This meant a reduction of ½d. in respect of Travancore estates. However, unofficial advices received from London indicated that the Ministry was willing to adopt for the 1946 contract the same terms as for the previous contract, and deliveries of tea proceeded on this understanding.

In May 1946 the Travancore producers heard with considerable surprise that the Food Ministry had decided to reduce the cost allowance to 6d. with effect from 2nd May. On their behalf the U.P.A.S.I. lodged a strong protest with the Tea Controller, pointing out that the latest cost figures had fully justified the payment of 6½d., that the rice situation in Travancore had reached a crisis compelling estates to buy other food grains at prohibitive costs, and that the untimely reduction in cost allowance would not only adversely affect supplies to

Ministry, but would also be unfair to those estates which had stood loyally by the Ministry for years. Further figures have since been submitted, and U.P.A.S.I. is still pressing for a reconsideration of this important question.

The actual 'Invitation to Offer' in respect of the 1946 contract was issued only late in May owing to delay in negotiations between the Government of India and the Ministry of Food, and it is understood that the offers in North and South India fall considerably short of requirements.

IV. CONTROL OF EXPORTS AND MARKETING

11. Indian Tea Control Act.—This Act is to expire at the end of March 1948. During the year under review, discussions were initiated on the need for the continuance, or otherwise, of the Act after that date. In this connection, an unofficial conference was held in New Delhi on 1st April 1946 and it was attended by the Commerce Member, the Secretary to the Commerce Department, Mr. P. J. Griffiths and Mr. R. C. Morris. It was reported here that in the view of Government, (a) enough tea should be retained in India for her own need and it would be difficult to do this without some machinery of export control, and (b) India was entitled to some advantage from world economic conditions and external tea prices should not therefore be kept down too rigidly. The discussions at this Conference, which were purely exploratory and would not commit anybody, seemed to indicate that (1) regulation of exports would have to continue in some form, (2) early information should be obtained regarding conditions in the Netherlands East Indies, (3) re-assessment of crop basis would probably be necessary and (4) some relaxation of the restriction on new planting would also be necessary.

The Association's own views in the matter may be summed up as follows:—(1) As regards revision of the crop basis, the revision of the assessment of areas which were young at the inception of the present regulation scheme should be provided for, and the present method of allocating export quotas should be altered after investigation and in any case such quotas should be made non-transferable; (2) The Indian Tea Control Act should include a definition of tea estates with compulsory registration of such estates; and (3) the Commerce Department of the Government of India should appoint a Committee of various tea interests to collect data and opinions for the purpose of advising Government as to the desirability or otherwise of continuing the International Tea Agreement with the Tea Control Act either in its present form or an amended form.

Early in 1946 the Government of India announced an increase in the export quota from 98 to 104 per cent of India's standard exports, the latter figure representing 398,572,633 lbs.

12. Future of the Block Purchase Scheme.—Important discussions relating to the future of the Block Purchase Scheme were held during the year, arising partly from the decision of the Government of the U.S.A. to cease purchases of tea from the Government of the U.K. with effect from 31st March 1946. It was believed that the Government of India intended to withdraw control if the tea supply position showed a reasonable improvement and, with this end in view, had proposed that provision should be made for the termination of the 1946 contract in mid-season, should other reasons justify it. The proposal was, however, dropped as it would clearly be impossible for the Ministry to contract for the whole exportable surplus for 1946 and to allocate in advance among the various consuming countries if the scheme were to be terminated in mid-season. There was also a suggestion that it should be possible to revert to a measure of private trading within the framework of the Block Purchase Scheme, enabling some sort of direct contact between exporters and consumers. From these and other suggestions it was clear that the U.P.A.S.I. should ask Government for an early decision regarding the tea export policy for 1947, and this is being done.

Meanwhile, the Government of India, in a press note dated 9th March 1946, announced that, in view of the international tea supply and demand position, the existing control over prices and quantities of export teas should continue throughout 1946-47. Since the prohibition of private exports of tea rests on an order under the Defence of India Rules which are due to expire at the end of September next, it is believed that the Government will introduce the necessary legislation to continue the control in the July session of the Assembly.

13. Planting of Tea in new Areas.—At the last annual general meeting of the Tea Section three resolutions on this subject were adopted and communicated to the Government of India. They were: (1) Protesting against the action of the International Tea Committee in giving preferential treatment to British East African colonies to plant up tea in new areas during the 1933-38 International Agreement; (2) protesting against the International Tea Committee's action in allowing Ceylon to plant tea in areas wherefrom slaughter tapped rubber had been removed; and (3) requesting Government to amend the Indian Tea Control Act to enable all tea estates irrespective of their planted area to apply for permission to extend their areas. In their reply, the Government of India stated that the question of making necessary amendments to the Act to ensure full utilization of the acreage available for extension of tea would be considered when the position regarding the utilization of the allotted areas was fully known. Arguments in favour of extension of tea areas were, later, fully set out in a circular which the U.P.A.S.I. addressed to all members of the Section, asking whether they were in favour of an immediate extension of tea areas by 10 per cent by suitable modification of the International Tea Agreement and connected legislation. At the time of writing this report, an overwhelming majority of the replies received is in favour of taking such a step.

14. International and Indian Tea Market Expansion Boards.—These bodies continued to carry on their useful activities in popularising tea, subject to the limitations placed upon them by unsettled post-war conditions.

A further reduction of the Tea Cess to Re. 1 per 100 lbs. was announced by Government with effect from 1st May 1946.

V. GENERAL

15. Tea Excise Duty.—It was reported that the total excise duty realised from Madras Presidency and Coorg for the year ended 31st March 1946 amounted to Rs. 20,31,308. This represented an internal off-take of 16,250,468 lbs. which agreed with the statistics collected by the Association.

16. Tea Chests, Fittings, etc.—There was a slight improvement in the tea chest position during the year. Late in June 1946 it was reported that Indian Plywood manufacturers had made representations to Government for a protective tariff and that Government had referred the request to the Tariff Board. Already, at present, there is a duty of 30 per cent on imported tea chests. In a letter addressed by the U.P.A.S.I. to the



It was pointed out that while admitting the general desirability of helping India's new industries, this should not be at the expense of older industries in India, and that so long as the Indian plywood industry could not supply a satisfactory quality of plywood to conform to the needs of the tea export trade, any protective duty would merely add to the costs of consumers, and the export trade would still be compelled to use imported materials.

17. Control of Internal Tea Prices.—The price of tea in the internal market was fairly satisfactory during the year. The South India Tea Supply Advisory Committee which was set up in the previous year to study and advise the Controller General of Civil Supplies questions relating to the supply, distribution and price structure, held one meeting during the year. The members of the Committee are Messrs. H. C. Boyd, C. M. Kothari and G. E. Garnham.

18. Planning and Development of Tea.—In October 1945, under instructions from Government, the Tea Controller asked for the Association's views on the question of improving the quality of Indian tea and in particular, about the assistance, if any, required by the industry from Government during the post-war period. In June 1946 a further letter was received from the Government of India asking for the Association's views on the following proposals, viz. (1) The formation of a Central Committee on the lines of the Central Cotton Committee, for initiating and co-ordinating research on tea; (2) the conversion of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board into an Indian Tea Board, on lines similar to the Indian Coffee Board, to include in its scope wide functions of scientific research; (3) the formation of a Tea Statistical Bureau for the collection and collation of all forms of tea statistics; and (4) utilization of the Tea Cess Fund to meet expenditure involved in these schemes. The Tea Section Committee is examining these proposals closely and although no final reply has yet been forwarded to Government, it may be stated that the Association recognises the need and welcomes the proposal for expansion of scientific research with financial assistance from Government, that such finance may be met out of the Tea Cess Funds, that a Tea Statistical Bureau is not only essential but its establishment is a matter of some urgency and that the cost of such a bureau may be met out of the collection of tea excise duty. Meanwhile a detailed note on the whole subject, promised by Mr. Mayne, is awaited.

19. Census of Manufacturing Industries Rules, 1945.—A letter was received in May 1946 from the Department of Industries and Supplies, stating that the Government of India proposed to extend the Census of Manufacturing Industries Rules, 1945, to the tea manufacturing industry. Specimen forms to be used in this connection were enclosed, and copies of these were circulated by the Committee to District Associations and Agency Houses for opinion. A Draft reply to the Government has been prepared and circulated to the Tea Section Committee.

20. Machinery Requirements.—The Association continued to recommend applications for imports of tea machinery as requested by the Controller of Imports.

21. Iron & Steel Control.—With effect from 1st April 1946 certain clauses of the Iron and Steel (Control of Production and Distribution) Order 1941 have been so amended as to permit any consumer to acquire without licence or other statutory authorisation any quantity of iron and steel of the controlled categories from any dealer. The partial removal of control has, however, caused difficulties to members in obtaining their supplies, and the Association has recently approached Government with a view to reviving an arrangement by which a certain quantity of iron and steel can be made available to estates every month.

22. Co-operation with the S.I.A. and I.T.A.—Close contact with the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, and the South Indian Association in London was maintained by the U.P.A.S.I. on questions of importance and common interest. During the year the Association was honoured by a visit from Mr. P. G. Edwards, Chairman of the S.I.A., who kindly attended the meeting of the Tea Section Committee held on 25th March 1946 and put forward the views of his Association on such important questions as the planning and development of tea and the tea export policy.

A special meeting of the members of the Tea Section was convened at Coonoor on 27th May 1946 to meet Mr. P. J. Griffiths, and to hear from him the views of the I.T.A. on some outstanding problems of the tea industry. Mr. Griffiths' visit was partly to strengthen the co-operation between the U.P.A.S.I. and the I.T.A. which, he said, could take the following lines:—(1) Informal discussions, at such a meeting as this, at frequent intervals; (2) consultation between the two Associations on all matters of policy before addressing Government in such matters; and (3) direct collaboration between M.L.A.'s at the Centre. During the very instructive discussion that followed, views on such questions as export control, new planting of tea, revision of crop basis, wage policy, labour welfare and estate labour unions were put forward in an endeavour to find common grounds for the two Associations to act together.

23. South Indian Tea Crop, 1945.—The following statement shows the tea crop for each planting district during the calendar year 1945:—

<i>District</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Anamallais ...	17,764,210	Mysore ...	1,274,406
Nilgiris ...	11,412,368	C. Travancore ...	16,133,135
Nilgiri-Wynaad ...	8,038,803	Kanan Devans ...	20,006,896
Wynaad & Malabar ...	8,650,933	Mundakayam ...	2,547,444
Madura ...	551,383	S. Travancore ...	4,240,676
Coorg ...	225,694	Tinnevely ...	220,138
Nelliampathies ...	611,527		
		Total ...	91,677,613

H. C. BOYD, *Chairman.*
 C. M. KOTHARI
 G. R. SIMPSON
 I. W. FINLAYSON
 V. O. ABRAHAM. } *Members.*



TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1946

EXPENDITURE						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Establishment :—</i>											
Tea Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	...	6,000	0	0			
Coffee Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	...	5,100	0	0			
Entomologist	...	...	...	...	...	3,300	0	0			
Mycologist	...	...	...	...	...	3,300	0	0			
Soil Chemist	...	...	...	...	...	2,760	0	0			
Establishment Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	4,820	8	0			
Clerks	...	...	...	...	...	554	6	0			
									25,834	14	0
<i>General—</i>											
Stationery, Postages and Telegrams	...	...	...	...	...	249	12	0			
Reports and Bulletins	...	...	...	...	...	72	0	0			
Library and Periodicals	...	...	...	...	...	71	12	0			
Assessments and Rents	...	...	...	...	...	253	7	6			
Medical Expenses and Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	249	11	6			
Travelling—Touring	...	...	...	...	...	1,217	13	6			
Miscellaneous Transports	...	...	...	...	...	25	14	0			
Incidentals	...	...	...	...	...	56	3	6			
Upkeep—Buildings and Furniture	...	...	...	...	...	322	15	5			
Laboratory Works and Experiments	...	...	...	...	...	1,040	0	3			
Field Works and Experiments	...	...	...	...	...	5,493	1	0			
Water-supply	...	...	...	...	...	100	10	0			
Lighting and Plant	...	...	...	...	...	289	0	9			
Manuring	...	...	...	...	...	1,097	1	9			
Income-tax	...	...	...	...	...	61	9	0			
									10,601	0	2
Provident Fund	...	...	...	...	...	2,508	8	0			
Furlough and Passage Fund	...	...	...	...	...	700	0	0			
Depreciation on Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	6,050	0	0			
Insurance on Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	185	12	0			
Investigation into Chemistry of Tea	...	...	...	...	...	500	0	0			
									9,944	4	0
Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Tea Scientific Section Fund						...			1,352	5	1



TEA SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Tea Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on Friday, the 16th August, 1946, commencing at 2-30 p.m.

The following Members were present:—

MR. H. C. BOYD (*Chairman*), MESSRS. V. O. ABRAHAM, R. W. M. HAY, F. W. INMAN, G. R. SIMPSON (*Members*), G. A. RAINEY (*Chairman, Indian Tea Association, Calcutta*), P. J. GRIFFITHS, C.I.E., M.L.A. (*Central*) (*Political Adviser to the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta*), L. E. MITCHELL (*Secretary*), AND P. S. SUBRAMANIAM (*Assistant Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

ANAMALLAI TEA ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. J. S. Bruce.
AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., *per* Mr. A. M. MacGregor.
ATHREY, MR. N. B.; RAMANAN, C. S. V. & OTHERS, *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.
CAMERON, MR. H. S.; CEYLON LAND & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; COONOR TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; ESTATES & AGENCY CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. S. Cameron.
CHERIAN, MR. P. V.
COORG TEA CO., LTD.; EMERALD VALLEY ESTATES LTD.; HAILEYBURIA TEA ESTATES LTD.; TALLIAR ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. K. N. Ananthasivan.
DEVASHOLA (NILGIRI) TEA ESTATES CO. LTD., *per* Mr. P. G. Krishna Iyer.
DEVARSHOLA TEA CO. LTD.; MADRAS TEA ESTATES LTD.; STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES CO., LTD.; TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD.; THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. N. A. Wilks.
ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD *per* Mr. J. M. Marsh.
FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. P. K. Nair.
HAWKE, MRS. L. A., *per* Mr. N. A. Hawke.
HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO. LTD.; MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. K. Srinivasan.
KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. W. F. Inman.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. R. W. M. Hay.
POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., *per* Mr. P. E. D. Cameron.
MORRIS, LT.-COL. R. C.
MURPHY ESTATES LTD.; PATRAKOLA TEA CO. LTD.; PEERMADE TEA CO. LTD.; STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER & TEA CO. LTD., TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES, LTD.; VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. B. H. Whitehorn.
NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; SHEVAROY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
NONSUCH TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. C. H. S. London.
PULLIKANAM TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. W. F. Inman.
SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. C. J. Madden.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, *per* G. R. Simpson.
ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. A. V. Thomas.
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. W. F. Inman.
KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. A. G. MacGregor.
NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
NILGIRI-WYNAAD *per* Mr. S. A. Minkley.
WYNAAD, *per* Mr. R. W. M. Hay.

VISITORS

Mr. J. A. R. Lloyd (Joint Controller, Indian Tea Licensing Committee), Mr. R. G. Peirce, Inspector of Tea, Cochin, Mr. W. E. Scott, Asst. Tea Controller.

Mr. H. C. Boyd, Chairman of the Section, presided.

The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the Notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman.—Before proceeding with business of the meeting I shall ask you to stand.

I take this opportunity of paying tribute to an old friend who was well known to you all, namely, the late Mr. J. E. Sampson, whose sudden death after an operation in Madras on the 20th July came as such a shock to all who knew him. I know he had looked forward to attending this meeting and renewing contact with the many friends he was accustomed to meet on these occasions.

Mr. Sampson was connected with U.P.A.S.I. matters for more years than I care to remember and was Chairman of the Tea Section Committee and a member of the Executive for three years 1941 to 1943. He was a member of the Labour Advisory Committee at the time of his death. His work on these committees was outstanding and the U.P.A.S.I. as a whole will find it difficult to replace one who took such an active and able part in managing its affairs.

Mr. Sampson or 'SAMMY', as he was affectionately called, had a loveable character and his sympathy and understanding endeared him to all. His loss is particularly keenly felt in the High Range where members of all communities mourn the loss of a true friend.

Gentlemen, on your behalf I express feelings of our great loss at the untimely death of an esteemed member of the Planting Community and our sympathy with Mrs. Sampson and her son in their sorrow.

PROCEEDINGS OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman.—A summary of the proceedings of the General Meeting held on 28th March 1946 was published in the *Planters' Chronicle* issue dated 15th May, 1946, on page 104. Have I your permission to take the proceedings as read and sign the minutes.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Mr. H. C. Boyd, Chairman, then delivered his address. He said :—

Gentlemen, I should like to welcome Mr. G. A. Rainey, Chairman of the Indian Tea Association, and Mr. P. J. Griffiths, Political Adviser to the Indian Tea Association.

Before moving the adoption of the Committee's Report, I should like to make a few remarks. First and foremost I should like to say how sorry we are that Mr. Williams is not with us today to conduct the meeting. As most of you may know, Mr. Williams had to relinquish the chairmanship of the Tea Section about two months ago owing to overwork. I am sure I express the feelings of all when I say we hope his holiday in England will refresh him and bring him back to us fit and strong once again.

If during the conduct of this afternoon's proceedings, you find me not well versed in all questions that arise, I will ask you to bear with me as it may be that I am not fully conversant with all the facts of the case.

The Report which we have to consider today is a pretty full one and covers all those items which have caused much discussion among ourselves at our recent General Meetings. I propose commenting on the more important ones and hope I shall not take up too much of your time in doing so.

There is little doubt that one of the most important problems facing the industry today is the future of Tea Control. Legislation in India which enables us to give practical effect to the International Tea Agreement is due to end on 31st March 1948 and it is of the utmost importance that Government should reach a decision and inform the Industry as to Government's future attitude on this question at the earliest possible moment. It is equally important that the industry should decide as early as possible its own attitude so as to give Government timely opportunity to consider our views.

Various aspects of this matter have occupied a considerable portion of your Committee's deliberations since our last meeting, and in this connection we were most fortunate in receiving a visit from Mr. P. J. Griffiths in May last and learning the I.T.A.'s and his personal views on some of the problems facing the industry. On the question of the future of control Mr. Griffiths gave the Committee Members explanations for Government's inability to come to any immediate decision at the present stage.

He said that there were two important considerations which made an early decision impracticable. The first is that the policy to be adopted in regard to restriction of production and international quotas is a subject reserved for discussion at the ensuing International Trade Conference, and the second is that the condition of the tea industry in the Netherlands East Indies, the third biggest producing country of signatories to the International Tea Agreement, is still too obscure to permit any reliable forecasts of the effect on world production.

As for the first of these considerations, while it is natural that America and other consuming countries might view unfavourably the restriction of production and international quotas which have been such important features of the International Agreement, experience has proved their value to the producing countries. At the same time no International Producers Agreement can succeed under normal conditions if it tends to continue for any length of time a position in which the world supply is substantially short of the world demand.

This brings us to the second consideration, the principal cause of the temporary world shortage. So far as the Netherlands East Indies are concerned, it may take not less than ten years for that country to get back to her pre-war scale of production, but so far this is mere guess work. In 1940 she produced 181 million lbs., and even assuming that only 40% of her planted area has since been uprooted, it represents a potential loss of some 72 million lbs. There is yet no evidence that the remaining 60% is under active production. Although according to the International Tea Committee's Bulletin for May 1946, the production of tea in India and Ceylon rose from 689 million lbs. in 1939 to 809 millions lbs. in 1945, this was not even enough to off-set the loss of production in the Netherlands East Indies. Thus with a substantial increase in the number of tea drinkers throughout the world, the gap between world production and world demand has steadily widened.

Unless there are prospects of that gap being quickly reduced, to contemplate a continuance of existing restriction on production by a producers' agreement, especially when all producing countries are not and may not be willing to become signatories to such an agreement, is merely to invite criticism from consuming countries, to facilitate more intensive competition from other and new producing countries, and to encourage the popularising of alternative beverages. On the other hand if a return to the evil days of over production of tea is to be avoided, any relaxation in restrictions must have regard to the probable world demand for tea for, say, the next ten years. The problem is not an easy one, it is not even merely a difference between a short-term and a long-term view. While it may be true that some tea producers who favour early relaxation of the restrictions are influenced by consideration only of the short-term advantage which might result from such policy, there are nevertheless very many who consider it desirable in the long-term interests of the industry.

The real need, before any substantial relaxation is agreed upon, is, as already mentioned, to ascertain the probable world demand for tea during the next ten years.

In this connection it has been suggested that the Government of India can help by asking the Governments of all consuming countries for their estimates of consumption during this period. Alternatively, the International Tea Committee might be able to compile a reasonably reliable estimate from information to be collected from the principal distributors in the main producing countries.

It has also been suggested that Government might send representatives of the industry to those tea growing countries which were occupied by the Japanese, in order to form some reliable estimate of the production potential of those countries.

There are, however, so far, few if any indications that the world shortage of tea will not continue and so long as this position should continue, it is feared that non-signatory countries will be able to put themselves in an increasingly stronger competitive position unless some action is taken to control their expansion.

The replies received to the questionnaire on this matter recently issued reveal that, so far as South India is concerned, the industry's verdict on this issue is overwhelmingly in favour of early extension of planting area



10 per cent. There are differences of opinion upon what basis this 10 per cent extension should be permitted, but agreement on the need for immediate extension is almost unanimous.

The Tea Section General Meeting last March decided that they were in favour of the removal of the present restrictions on private exports of teas as soon as practicable. There are, however, very many members of the Association who consider that discontinuance of export control will be quite impracticable until reliable data for future planning is available. That the Commerce Member also shares this view to a certain extent was indicated at the unofficial conference last April attended by Mr. P. J. Griffiths and Mr. R. C. Morris.

Government apparently is of opinion that in order to ensure adequate supplies for internal consumption some measure of control over exports must continue, but that it will probably be necessary to revise the crop basis and to permit some relaxation of the restriction in new planting.

It is quite clear, therefore, that if the industry agrees to continue control after 1948, so far as South India is concerned at any rate there will have to be some alteration in the existing agreement so as to permit some extension of planting area and to revise the existing crop basis and the quota system.

The future of the Black Purchase Scheme has come in for careful observation in recent months. The Government of India seem convinced that the Scheme should not be allowed to continue a moment longer than is absolutely necessary. Perhaps the greatest defect inherent in the Scheme is the total lack of contact between the exporter or producer and the consumer, and the consequent inability of the former to study or satisfy the needs of the latter. From a long-range view of the industry's prospects, such a situation is undesirable. The recent decision of the U.S.A. to cease purchases of tea from the U.K. Govt. is expected to enable resumption, on a small scale, of direct trading between the exporter and the U.S.A. consumer. The suggestion has therefore been made that it should be possible for the other countries involved in the Black Purchase Scheme to revert to a measure of private trading within its framework instead of attempting to abolish the Scheme altogether. This might be done by the issue of import licenses by the Governments of the consuming countries to all bona fide individual importers on some agreed basis and the importer instructing his selected exporter in India to obtain from the Tea Controller an allocation of tea against his licence and to ship the tea. Whatever decisions are taken, time is a big factor and the industry is entitled to ask Government to state its intentions categorically and well in advance. Last minute suggestions like the one recently made by the Government of India that provision should be made for termination of the 1946 Contract in mid-season ought not to arise in future. The industry needs time to adjust itself to new programmes and policies.

The export allotment for 1946-47 has been fixed at 108% of standard exports, or roughly 414 million lbs. The Tea Controller invited offers for export up to 412 million lbs.

So far as the industry has been able to calculate, offers both from North and South India must have fallen considerably short of the Ministry's requirements, and with the loss of production continuing in Ceylon, the Ministry will undoubtedly have to rely on a comparatively large supplementary contract for the balance of tea required, which may or may not be forthcoming. The decision of the Ministry to reduce the increased cost of production allowance for Travancore tea from 6½d. to 6d. per lb. has undoubtedly been partly responsible for short offers from South India. In view of the figures supplied to Government showing that the increase in cost of production is even more in some cases than 7d. and with consumers in Great Britain rationed to 2 oz. per head per week, the decision is unfair both to the producer and to the U.K. consumer, who is most unlikely to have worried about an increased cost of ¾d. per lb per month on his rationed allowance, if this were necessary. Altogether in this matter we feel that the Government of India have not pressed the case for Travancore Tea Growers strongly enough.

There are encouraging signs that Government is alive to the necessity for early action as regards the future of the industry. Apart from the informal conference referred to, Government have asked what assistance the industry will need in the post-war period and what action is proposed with a view to improving the quality, packing and marketing of Indian tea. We have also been asked for our views on certain suggestions which have been made to Government such as the formation of a Central Tea Committee for the purpose of initiating and co-ordinating tea research on an all-India basis and the establishment of a statistical bureau for the industry.

As regards packing, the industry is certainly in need of assistance from Government, but only assistance to ensure the industry's freedom to purchase tea chests in any market which can supply what is essential for efficient packing. There is at the present time a very active and persistent claim by the Indian Plywood Industry for protection in the form of an increase in the duty on imported chests. Every member of this Association using tea chests for the export trade knows that if Government accedes to such a claim, the industry will still be forced to use imported chests at the higher price, certainly for the export trade, because the indigenous chest does not meet the needs of the purchasers of Export tea. We have no prejudice against the indigenous plywood provided it can be produced as efficiently and at a competitive price with the imported plywood, but we do ask that Government will not deliberately penalise an older and much larger industry by a method that may well result in users of indigenous as well as imported plywood having to pay more for their requirements.

The U.P.A.S.I. have already recognised the need and urgency for a statistical bureau, and the desirability of statutory compulsion on the various components of the industry to furnish statistics. Such a Bureau should, in your Committee's opinion, be financed by a contribution from the proceeds of the tea excise duty.

Both the Commerce Department and the Labour Department have recently proposed very complicated statistical returns for the Industry. While we recognise the need for statistics, there is grave danger of these being incomplete, inaccurate and out of date unless Government will make a less ambitious beginning and confine their requirements to a few simple essentials. We believe that both for Government's and the Industry's requirements a limited quantity of up-to-date and accurate statistics are much to be preferred to mere volume on which little reliance can be placed and which in the case of past statistical compilations have become ancient history by the time they have been published.

The question of expansion of the Tea Scientific Station has been actively considered by your Committee and it is unanimously agreed that the present station at Davershola has outlived its purpose if proper attention is to be paid to scientific research into tea problems in South India. Your Committee are of the opinion the time has come for a full investigation into the problem and have appointed a sub-committee, subject to the approval of the personnel by the incoming Tea Section Committee, to carry out a full enquiry and put forward recommendations.

In this connection their first action will be to consider the very valuable note prepared by Mr. Mayne on the problem in general. This note has just arrived from England where Mr. Mayne is at present on holiday.

is a document of 12 pages and will be of the utmost value to the sub-committee in helping it to formulate proposals for submission to members of the Tea Section.

Mr. Mayne is of the opinion that the most satisfactory way to finance the Scientific Station will be by a statutory collection of a cess by the State, to be handed over to a research committee or board, the overwhelming majority of whose members are representatives of the industry. This would introduce the necessary degree of stability to the income but permitting effective control of research by the industry. This point of stability of income is most important if a really efficient station is to be maintained. Past experience has shown that when the finance of the Station was dependent on subscription from a large number of independent units such organisations are too exposed to the fluctuations of economic circumstances resulting in instability of budgetary provision which creates insecurity for the staff and complete inability to plan a research programme with any certainty that it can be carried through to completion.

The position is, Gentlemen, that in due course you will be receiving proposals for the re-organization of the Scientific Station and you will be asked for your views on them.

It remains for me, Gentlemen, to thank the members of your Committee for the consideration and support they have given me in my short term of office and in particular I would thank your Secretary, Mr. Mitchell, for his very able assistance at all times. (Applause).

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION

The Chairman.—I would like to thank Mr. Rainey, particularly, on having at much inconvenience to himself come down from Calcutta to be with us at our meeting today. It is of the utmost importance that our two Associations move together in all matters of common interest and there is no more effective way of promoting this desire than by personal contact. I have had conversations with Mr. Rainey and Mr. Griffiths on how best to improve the liaison between the offices of the two Associations and we have in mind a scheme which will cut out the possibility of inadvertent action being taken by either side on matters that need prior consultation. Now, Gentlemen, you are all waiting to hear Mr. Rainey. I will now ask him to speak to you.

Mr. G. A. Rainey.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I much appreciate the generous welcome which has been given to me by the Chairman of your Association on your behalf. Apart from the official side of my visit, the opportunity of coming to Coonoor and attending your meetings has been a matter of great personal interest to me. Perhaps, more than the majority of the tea community in Calcutta, my main experience as a planter and later in Calcutta has been in connection with Assam, and it is a far cry from there to the tea areas of the South. I have, in fact, only visited those areas once, some fifteen years ago, but during my present visit, I have had the pleasure of again seeing some of your tea. The contrast between conditions here and those across the Brahmaputra is very marked—and most interesting, and it is my great regret that my visit has to be so brief and that I have been unable to travel farther afield. But like you, we up North are faced by a host of problems and difficulties which seem not to grow less, but greater and more complex as the war period recedes and, unfortunately, I cannot spare the time for a longer tour. It is indeed, nevertheless, a measure of the importance which we in the North attach to continued collaboration between our two Associations, that it has been considered vital for Mr. Griffiths and myself, despite a situation in North India and Calcutta which cannot be described as easy, to be present at your meetings. As the full intricacies of our post-war problems reveal themselves, it becomes clearer every day that the planting industry will be the subject of criticism and attack from many directions, and that it is only by a very close measure of co-operation, and by making every effort to agree on major points of policy, that we can hope to pass through the present difficulties without serious harm to the Industry.

During the War it was foreseen by us all that labour policy would constitute one of our main problems in the post-war years. That prophecy is now being fully justified by events. I appreciate that conditions between North and South India differ so markedly that it is probably unlikely that the same practical solutions will be applicable in detail, nevertheless, the fundamental problems are similar, and it may be of interest to you if I give a brief indication of our recent experience up North.

One of the most difficult labour problems has, of course, been in connection with the supply of food stuffs. Although our present position in this respect is perhaps not so difficult as that which you have to face in South India, we have had our bad times and in 1943, with the Bengal famine in the background, provision of supplies presented great difficulties. Assam is, of course, a surplus Province and it has been possible in both the valleys to make local arrangements to ensure that the labourers' staple food stuffs were secured. Rationing, however, has been introduced in that Province by Government and we have had to reduce the supply of food grains to the labourer, below what we regard as his real requirements. In Bengal still greater difficulty and anxiety has been experienced during the past few years but by means of a good deal of self-help and with the assistance of the Provincial Government, supplies have on the whole been maintained at a satisfactory level. In both Provinces the majority of gardens have taken energetic steps to encourage the cultivation of additional food crops and, by these means, we hope to get through the present year without undue difficulty. There are other shortages of goods which, if less essential, are, nevertheless, extremely irritating to labour. Cloth supplies, for instance, are still woefully inadequate and here our labour has a really justifiable grievance. It proved extremely difficult last cold weather to get supplies of blankets to meet the Industry's needs, and there is an even more critical situation in the supply of ordinary clothing now. Umbrellas too, are in short supply and it is quite impossible at present to get even a tenth of the Industry's total needs. Taking everything into consideration, however, the position is no worse than it was during the War years, the only material factor which was considerably altered being that the opportunities for high earnings which were given to tea garden labour employed on road construction, defence projects, etc., in the Eastern Frontier, are no longer there.

Logically, therefore, there is no reason why particular difficulties should arise in our relations with our labour. Nevertheless, industrial areas in Northern and Eastern India have, and are experiencing a wave of general labour unrest, accompanied by strikes and labour disturbances. So far, the main tea areas have not been affected, but in one district there has been serious labour agitation organised in exactly the same way as in the urban centres. In that district, intense anti-employer propaganda has been carried on amongst the labour, attempts have been made to bring about a general strike among tea garden workers, individual strikes have occurred, and the most unreasonable demands have been put forward. Wage levels which no tea garden could afford to pay have been demanded and indeed some idea of the fantastic nature of these claims can be gained from the fact, that there has been a demand for 52 paid holidays in the year for tea garden labour.

In our view the main safeguard against this kind of danger lies in being constantly on the lookout for grievances, even before they arise. In the district to which I have referred, we have found that the most potent cause of trouble was lack of uniformity in wages, concessions and other conditions of service. Such conditions create a favourable opportunity for agitation and if, as a result, gardens with inferior terms are forced to bring them up to the average, the influence and prestige of the agitators is greatly enhanced. The remedy in the particular area concerned was clearly to introduce uniform conditions and this, in fact, we have now done; we are not leaving it there, however, and the Association is now about to undertake a complete examination of wages and other similar questions relating to terms of service in all districts. In all these matters we must clearly keep in close touch with the Provincial Governments concerned. This we do normally through the very efficient organisation of our technical advisers; but in addition, there is shortly to be a Conference between ourselves and the Government of Assam, at which we shall welcome the opportunity of joint examination of all these problems. We trust that a similar Conference with the Bengal Government and, if necessary, with the Central Government also, will take place.

We are also making every effort to improve our Association organisation as a whole, to meet the new needs of the time in dealing with labour matters. A special labour department, staffed by men of high calibre and experience, is being created. With this organisation constantly in touch with the labour situation, studying current requirements and, submitting recommendations, as well as dealing with any incidents which may arise, we trust that our labour relations will continue to be as harmonious as they have been in the past. A new generation of workers is arising, and new traditions are being created and it is our duty to treat these movements with sympathy. Many of us however will regret the increased interference by the Legislature and the Government in our dealings with labour, but we hope that, by the means we have indicated and by a close and friendly contact with Government, we may keep abreast with the times, still preserving those aspects of the old order, such as intimate personal knowledge of the labour, sympathy with their requirements and protection from exploitation on the part of outsiders, which have always characterized the work of the tea garden Manager at his best.

I have dealt at some length with labour matters, because in North India they are the most important present problems with which we are faced. The other main economic problems of the Industry, those of over-production and under-consumption which formed our main headache during the '30s have been immensely affected by the developments of the War. We have not yet however enough information to enable us to assess the exact extent of the changes which have taken place. We know, for instance, that there is a world shortage of tea instead of an excess of it, but we have yet no definite information about the damage caused in the Netherlands East Indies by Japanese occupation and the period within which it can be repaired. We are equally in the dark about the position of the Japanese tea industry, the effect of the War on China's tea production and consumption, and what has happened to the experiments in production being made before the War in such diverse areas as Soviet Russia, Persia, and even parts of South America. Similarly, the current shortage may mask real alterations in consumption, such as reductions, caused by drastic rationing or non-availability of tea during the war on the one hand, or, on the other hand, increases brought about by such developments as the canteen habit in industry in England and Australia, the development of a greater taste for tea on the part of Allied service men and so forth. All these factors are obscure, but yet they are of vital importance in our assessment of the future world tea situation and the decision which the industry in this country and elsewhere must make in the relatively near future on the continuation of tea regulation, and the form which that regulation, if decided on, should take. As you are aware, the whole question forms the subject of intensive study by the International Tea Committee at present, and we in North India feel that, before making any decisions on this problem, we should await such recommendations as the International Tea Committee may make. One point of particular importance to you in the South, is the question of revision of crop basis if the Tea Control Act is renewed. In the Indian Tea Association, we are fully convinced that crop basis will have to be determined afresh, though we are not yet quite clear on what the new determination should be based.

In the meantime, our main concern is whether, after the present year, to continue or discontinue the existing Block Purchase Scheme. Uncertainty about this has a very disturbing effect on the Calcutta internal auctions for, with the considerable quantity of special export licenses now in the hands of producers, there is a real danger that any sudden withdrawal of the Scheme would cause India's internal market to be denuded of tea. During the depression years, the Industry saw in the development of the Indian market one of the most important influences in increasing tea consumption to economic levels, and much time, money and thoughtful energy has been devoted, through the agency of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, in development work. It still remains a fundamental part of the policy of my Association, that the efforts and the expenditure of the last ten years, should not be jeopardized by a situation in which the Indian market would be robbed of the tea which it required. We have consistently pressed the Government of India to take such action as appears to us to meet the case; on the one hand, to give early intimation of their intentions regarding the Block Purchase Scheme, and on the other, to limit the period of validity of special export licenses. It is a pity, therefore, that Government have been unable, as yet, to announce their intentions on these important matters.

I turn again to the question with which I began my remarks, and which underlies all I have been saying, that is to say, co-operation between the United Planters' Association and the Industry in the North. At present we do everything possible to maintain contact with your Association by means of interchange of correspondence, information and by visits such as this. Despite that and despite every desire to work together, there is no doubt that we often arrive at different conclusions on important matters and, while this may be due to some extent to the difficult circumstances in which the two branches of the Industry are placed, I often think that an important reason for it is the absence of any permanent arrangements for satisfactory consultation as mentioned by your Chairman. Some specific machinery for this purpose is required—and I have taken the opportunity of my visit to discuss this matter with your President and Chairman here.

Co-operation between the British and Indian sections of the Industry is already close and must remain so, if we are to pass successfully through the difficult days ahead. In the North we derive great benefit from the close alliance between ourselves and the various Indian Associations, as well as from the existence of a good many Indian members of our own Association.

Of equal importance is the maintenance of a united front with our London friends. Let there be no division in our counsels and no divergence in our aims.

May I conclude, by once more expressing my thanks, personally and on behalf of the Indian Tea Association, for the invitation which you have extended to me to be present at this important meeting, and for the many courtesies and kindnesses which I have experienced at your hands during my short visit here. (Applause.)

The Chairman.—Has anybody questions to ask of Mr. Rainey?

On your behalf I should like to thank Mr. Rainey for his very interesting address. I shall ask him to convey the good wishes of the members of this Association to the members of the Indian Tea Association and the hope that the very cordial relations which have existed between the two Associations will continue for many years to come. I trust Mr. Rainey will convey those wishes to his Association.

Mr. G. A. Rainey.—I will have the greatest pleasure in doing so.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is to consider the Report of the Committee for the year 1945-46. The Report has been in your hands for some time. With your permission I propose to take it as read. If nobody has anything to ask about the Report, I propose :—

‘ That the Report of the Tea Section Committee for the year 1945-46 be adopted.’

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

TEA SCIENTIFIC SECTION

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is the consideration of the Administration Report and Accounts of the Tea Scientific Section for 1945-46. This Report too, has been in your hands for some time. Mr. S. Ananda Rau, Officer-in-charge, U.P.A.S.I., Tea Experimental Station, Davershola, is here this afternoon and he will be very happy to answer any questions any member likes to ask. If there are no questions, I propose from the Chair :—

‘ That the Administration Report and Accounts of the Tea Scientific Section for the year 1945-46 be adopted.’

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—The next item is the election of the Tea Section Committee for the forthcoming year. There are five seats allocated geographically, for each of which there is only one nomination. But for the two ‘General’ seats there are 3 nominations, and Gentlemen, you will please record your votes for two of them. In doing so, you will please indicate the names you are voting to. (The vote was taken and after scrutiny—)

The Chairman.—Member for the five geographical seats elected unopposed are :—

Anamallais and Nelliampathies	Mr. G. R. Simpson.
Kanan Devans	Mr. H. C. Boyd.
Central Travancore, South Travancore and Mundakayam ..	Mr. J. S. Wilkie.
Nilgiri-Wynaad and Malabar	Mr. R. W. M. Hay.
Nilgiris	Mr. G. B. Reade.

The results of the election for the two General seats are as follows :—

Mr. V. O. Abraham	22 votes
Mr. P. V. Cherian	16 ”
Mr. C. M. Kothari	8 ”

The Chairman.—I declare Messrs. V. O. Abraham and P. V. Cherian duly elected to the two General seats on the Tea Section Committee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—There are three matters under this heading. Nos. 1 and 2 are resolutions authorised by the Tea Section Committee. As regard No. 3 it was intended that this matter should only be discussed. I will move the first two resolutions and leave the third item for discussion.

Your Committee knowing the desire that prevailed for an amendment to the International Tea Agreement to enable existing owners of tea estates to extend their areas beyond the scope allowed in the Agreement, sent a circular on the 8th May last to members calling for certain information. The reply to this circular showed an overwhelming majority in favour of the International Tea Committee being approached to allow an alteration to the Agreement so that a 10% increase in the existing planted area in India be made permissible in the currency of the present Agreement.

In order to carry out the mandate it is desirable at this meeting today to pass two resolutions which I shall read out to you shortly. Both these resolutions will be addressed to the Government of India.

The first one requests Government to ask the International Tea Committee to agree to the extension by 10% and the second one indicates in what manner the acreage made available shall be allocated. The method chosen for the allocation does not find favour with all members but is clearly one favoured by the majority and as such is embodied in the resolution.

The following is the text of the two resolutions :—

1. ‘ Resolved that this Association strongly favours a 10 per cent extension to all owners of existing acreage under Tea and requests the Government of India to take early steps for a suitable amendment of the International Tea Agreement and connected legislation to give effect to this proposal.’

2. ‘ Resolved also to request the Government of India that the permissions to extend sought in the previous resolution may be grouped and utilised by a company or individual proprietor of Tea estates for an extension anywhere in the same province or state.’

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—How was the 10% arrived at?



The Chairman.—The suggestion of 10% was made by a member of the Section Committee.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—There is a suggestion that there may be overproduction. I should like to know whether this 10% extension will immediately affect the market, also as to when the present Act will cease to exist. I think the present Act continues for 2 years after the cessation of hostilities.

The Chairman.—The Act expires on 31st March, 1948.

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—Does the resolution visualise the possibility of one estate 'A' with a 10% allowance being able to sell its quota to another estate 'B' who will then be able to open that extension in another area?

The Chairman.—No.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I would like to move an amendment that instead of 10% the figure of extension should be 50%.

The Chairman.—I am sorry the resolution must be either accepted or rejected as it stands.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I do not understand your argument. I should like to know what is the procedure. I think I am right in moving an amendment.

The Chairman.—Under the revised Rules as amended at the last General Meeting urgent propositions are allowed to be put up at the meeting without prescribed notice. This is an urgent proposition ordered to be placed on the Agenda by the Tea Section Committee in accordance with the Rules. Such urgent propositions do not permit of amendments being moved.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Is that the constitution?

The Secretary.—At the last Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India members approved of an amendment to Section 47, which provided that 'no special business shall be included in a notice under this Rule unless it is specified in a member's requisition for the meeting, in a member's notice of motion given to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the meeting, or unless it has been ordered by the Product Committee to be so included.' You can vote either for or against such a proposition. Otherwise, the whole purpose of that amendment to Section 47, to prevent members coming to a decision at very short notice on very important matters or without adequate consideration by your Committee, would be defeated.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I am very sorry to say that, after all, if members can frame rules and amendments, they have a right to discuss resolutions and make any amendments to resolutions. I claim, in this case, that sufficient notice is not given to members. If the rules do not permit me to move any amendment to the present resolution, my suggestion would be to refer back this resolution to the Tea Section Committee.

The Chairman.—Mr. Thomas, it would only be fair to members of the Committee to know what your objection is to the resolution, which has been agreed upon by the Committee. The desire for the extension of 10% was submitted to the Tea Section Committee by members themselves. So in that respect you cannot modify that figure. The 10% extension has been agreed to by the majority of members, who replied to the Circular.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I would like to have your ruling as to whether I can move an amendment to this resolution?

The Chairman.—I do not think so.—Has any other member any question before I move the resolution?

Mr. R. C. Morris.—In the present Act extension is not permitted to companies of more than 300 acres and private individuals owning more than 150 acres. How is the present resolution going to overcome this difficulty?

The Chairman.—This has been safeguarded in Resolution No. 1. In the Act it is limited to certain limited liability companies owning 300 acres and less and to private proprietors of 150 acres and less. The inclusion of the words 'all owners' would mean an alternation in the Act removing the existing restriction so that everybody who owned an estate would be entitled to permission to extend.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—Could not the second resolution end after the word 'anywhere'? The rest of the resolution 'in the same Province or State' can be omitted.

Mr. J. A. R. Lloyd.—I would like to know how can you extend the 10% asked for without sufficient nurseries. As the present Act stands, you cannot have a nursery on 31st March, 1948, bigger than what you had on 31st March, 1938. You cannot effect the 10% extension without amending the corresponding rule regarding nurseries.

The Chairman.—I think Mr. Lloyd's contention is covered by the first resolution which calls for suitable amendments of the International Tea Agreement and connected legislation. That will mean that the rules regarding nurseries also need to be changed.

Mr. V. O. Abraham.—Mr. Morris' question was with regard to the limit of 150 acres to individual proprietors and 300 acres to companies. May I draw the attention of the meeting to last year's resolution passed at the General Meeting that the Government of India may be requested to amend Section 28 (2), proviso 1 of the Indian Tea Control Act 1943, to enable all the tea estates irrespective of their planted area to apply for permission to extend their areas. That resolution was passed at the last year's Annual General Meeting of the Section, and forwarded to the Government of India for necessary action. We are now moving the Government that 10% extension should be allowed to be extended by all owners irrespective of their area.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—What action has been taken by Government on the resolution sent to them last year?

The Chairman.—That resolution was sent up to Government.

Mr. K. Srinivasan.—And it is there.

The Chairman.—If there are no more questions, I should like to put the resolutions to the vote. I will put them up separately. The first resolution reads as follows:—

'Resolved that this Association strongly favours a 10 per cent extension to all owners of existing acreage under Tea and requests the Government of India to take early steps for a suitable amendment of the International Tea Agreement and connected legislation to give effect to this proposal'.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried nem con.



The second resolution reads as follows:—

'Resolved also to request the Government of India that the permission to extend sought in the previous resolution may be grouped and utilised by a Company or Individual Proprietor of Tea Estates for an extension anywhere in the same Province or State.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried nem con.

The Chairman.—There has been a discussion in the Tea Section Committee about the desirability or otherwise of approaching Government for the removal of the tea Excise Duty. Opinions are somewhat divided on this and I would like to have some discussion on that.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—We would welcome the abolition of the Excise Duty. But the question is would any purpose be served by passing a resolution on this subject.

The Chairman.—I quite agree with Mr. A. V. Thomas. I take it that I have your permission not to proceed with the resolution.

It was unanimously agreed not to proceed with the resolution.

Mr. A. V. Thomas.—I propose a vote of thanks to our Chairman, Mr. H. C. Boyd, for so ably conducting the meeting.

The Chairman.—I thank you, Mr. Thomas.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

COFFEE SECTION GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Coffee Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, held at Coonoor, on Thursday, 28th March, 1946, commencing at 11-00 a.m.

The following were present:—

W/CDR. J. H. SPROTT (*Chairman*), MESSRS. S. H. DENNIS, N. B. ATHREY, V. M. ASIRVATHAM NADAR (*Members*), W. W. MAYNE (*Secretary*), AND L. E. MITCHELL (*Secretary-designate*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. E. Sampson.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
APPAYYA, Mr. B. M.; APPIAH, Mr. M. P.; BALL, Major E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; FENNEL, Mr. E. A., & LT.-COL. H. F. MURLAND; HOROOR SYNDICATE, LTD.; HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. D. I.; MORGAN, Mr. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SHETTY, Mr. D.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN, *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
ARUNACHALAM CHETTIAR, Mr. O.A.P.R.M., *per* Mr. P. M. Belliappa.
ATHREY, Mr. N. B.; RAMANAN, Mr. C. S. V., & OTHERS, *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.
BRUNNER, MRS. C.; CAREY, COMDR. H. F.; CRAWFORD, Mr. C. S. & LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD, CRAWFORD, Mr. C. S., LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD & G. V. R. FREND; ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SALE SOCIETY LTD.; GILBY, Mr. E. H.; GILBY, Mr. R. A.; HAWKE, Mr. L. A.; LESLIE, Mr. A. W.; MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.; MATHEW, Mr. K. M.; MORRIS, Mr. C. W. G.; MORRIS, Mr. A. E. C.; OLIVER, Mr. L. C.; MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD.; O'SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, Mr. C. D.; SCOTT, Mr. W. P.; PORTER, HALL & Co.; SHORT BROS. LTD.; SHORT, MRS. M. S. R. SMITH, MRS. S. A.; THOMAS, Mr. M. A.; TRAVERS-DRAPE, Mr. V. L.; *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
BEN GORM ESTATE, *per* Mr. E. G. Cameron and Mr. E. C. Sylvester.
DEVERSHOLA TEA CO., LTD.; STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES CO., LTD.; TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD.; THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. I. W. Finlayson.
MOORE, Mr. R. J. A.; POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., *per* Mr. J. R. N. Pryde, C.B.E.
NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; SHEVAROY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R.
THASEN & Co.; *per* Mr. J. Yesuthasen.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, *per* Mr. H. Gerry.
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. M. R. Coghlan.
COORG, *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.
NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
MYSORE, *per* Mr. S. H. Dennis.

FIRM MEMBERS

ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. J. L. H. Williams.
THOMAS & Co., LTD., A. V., *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
W/Comdr. J. H. Sprott, Chairman of the Coffee Section Committee, presided.
At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, the second item on the Agenda is 'to confirm the proceedings of the previous meeting held on 16th August last'. Owing to delay in printing, which is beyond our control, the minutes have not been in your hands. I hope the Year Book for 1945 will soon be printed and I will sign the minutes when they have been circulated.

The Secretary.—May I explain? During the past years there has been great delay in getting the Year Book printed. In the first place we have to apply for a permit and securing a permit usually takes some time. The manuscript has been in the hands of our printers for some months now. When we asked them to hurry up with the work, they wrote regretting the delay but owing to the exceptionally heavy work thrown on to the printing firms in Madras, they were unable to complete the work before the end of March. I hope the Year Book will be in your hands by the middle of next month.

PRODUCT CESS FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

The Chairman.—The next item is to fix the product cess for the financial year 1946-47. If nobody has any comments to make regarding Product Cess, I will propose from the Chair:—

'That in accordance with Rule 13 (a), the Coffee Product Cess for the financial year 1st April 1946—31st March 1947, to be collected from each ordinary member of the Association liable to pay such Cess shall be at the rate of one and half annas per acre of the area planted with Coffee in the Mysore State and three and half annas per acre of the area planted with Coffee outside Mysore State'.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

BUDGET FOR 1946-47

The Chairman.—I do not think there are any controversial points in the Budget for 1946-47, but it is open for discussion. Perhaps one or two items do need explanation. First, the reduction in the Scientific Officer's salary. This is really his leave pay for six months. Second, there is the item Meetings, Rs. 5,000. This comes into our budget in accordance with the decision of the Executive Committee that each section must bear the cost of its own meetings. Therefore, we have included a sum of Rs. 5,000. Your Chairman said in his address at the Budget meeting last year that that year's simplified budget would probably be the last presented to the U.P.A.S.I. Perhaps I should explain to you that the Budget is prepared on the assumption that we have to go on paying for the Coffee Scientific Department for the rest of the year, although we hope that during the year the Indian Coffee Board will take over all the activities of the Scientific Department.

The Secretary.—The position with regard to the grant from the Madras Government is that it will lapse when the Indian Coffee Board Research Organisation begins to function actively. In the case of tea, we presume that the grant will be continued till the end of 1946-47 when the three years period lapses. What will happen after that we do not know. With regard to the Coorg Government grant, I presume it will lapse on the same terms as the Madras Government grant for Coffee research. We have had no communication on that matter.

The Chairman.—If there are no questions on the budget, I propose to move from the Chair:—

'That the Coffee Section Budget for the financial year 1st April 1946—31st March 1947 as approved by this meeting be passed'.

The resolution was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

FUTURE ORGANISATION OF THE COFFEE INDUSTRY

The Chairman.—These are one or two subjects under 'Any other Business' which I would like to mention. One is the future organisation of the Coffee Industry. Your Committee sent round a questionnaire not only to members of this Association but to other associations interested in coffee and the replies to that questionnaire were remarkably unanimous. Your Committee are most grateful to those who expressed their opinions. These opinions have been consolidated and forwarded to the Indian Coffee Board and the Government of India have called a conference for, I think, 22nd April, 1946, at which the future organisation of the coffee industry is to be discussed. We have our three members from this Association as representatives on the Indian Coffee Board and your Committee wish me to go as well to represent the U.P.A.S.I. as an independent person. I will do so.

CARDAMOMS

The other subject is cardamoms. Recently at the request of the members of this Association, the Government of India called a conference in Madras to consider the possibility of establishing a marketing organisation for cardamoms. Mr. Bull and Mr. Sladen attended the conference on our behalf and with your permission I would like to extend a very hearty vote of thanks to them for doing so. (Applause). I cannot exactly tell you what happened at the Conference because they have had no time to vet the notes prepared by the Secretary and therefore it is better for us to wait until these notes are prepared by the Secretary and therefore it is better for us to wait until those notes are prepared and circulated. But I may say that, generally speaking, the U.P.A.S.I. views were accepted by the Conference and I think the position is that cardamom growers are taking steps in the right direction. I would like to know if any member has got any subject to bring up under 'Any Other Business'.

Mr. J. F. Murphy.—I think the tendency of the Government of India at present seems to me to cut down coffee prices as much as possible. If that is so and if a minimum wage comes in is there any assumption that prices will remain as they are or be changed suddenly?

The Chairman.—That is a very real threat, but what we can do about it really I do not know. I do not think there is any chance of the price of coffee being reduced by Government again. We have got our representative a very able planter at Delhi, who is watching our interests. I do not know of any particular letter on which you are making your remarks.

Mr. J. F. Murphy.—I understand that a minimum wage has been fixed and that there will be a reduction in the price of coffee.

The Chairman.—I think the Government realise that coffee has got a fair price. We have had a Cost Accountant to go into the cost of production of coffee, and I understand that he has reported favourably on the present price level. The expenditure on coffee is well spent.

Mr. J. F. Murphy.—Thank you.

The Chairman.—If no body else has got any subject to bring up under 'Any Other Business' I have a unpleasant task, that of bidding farewell to our Scientific Officer, Mr. Mayne. We all know Ernie so well that it is very difficult to say all that you would wish me to say in adequate terms, so you must please forgive my shortcomings.

Ernie has been Coffee Scientific Officer for the past 17 years and since June 1941 has assisted the Tea Scientific Department as well as being Secretary to the U.P.A.S.I. for the past 3 years. How well he has done the two latter jobs, I will leave for others to say, but this I can say, there are few, if any, who could have done all he has done half nearly as well. (Applause). As Coffee Scientific Officer he has brought untold benefit to the industry all the time he has been with us. I will not go into full details of all Ernie's magnificent work

in connection with coffee, is too gigantic. However, I personally appreciate his work so much because he did not confine himself to pure scientific research (*Applause*) but to SCIENTIFIC PLANTING with scientific methods as well. He heartily appreciated all the difficulties to be contended with on an estate and devised methods for overcoming these difficulties.

Ernie's popularity was unbounded and his presence sought at every social function. Some of you well remember his Bible stories on A.F.I. guest nights. With Ernie's social popularity we must couple that of Mrs. Ernie. Their hospitality to all has been unlimited and I would like to tell them how much it has been appreciated.

We are indeed grateful to Dr. Coleman for introducing Ernie Mayne and to Ernie himself for all he has done for the coffee industry. During his residence at Balehonnur, his work must be coupled with that of the Mysore Government. We are extremely grateful to them for all their assistance in the past 17 years. A special resolution on this will come up later, but on your behalf I would like to express our great appreciation. Now, last but not least, I hope that Mr. and Mrs. Ernie will not forget their planter friends in coffee. Our loss is another's gain, but we shall always welcome them in our midst at any and all times. Gentlemen, on your behalf I wish Mr. and Mrs. Mayne the very best of leaves and all the very best of good fortune, wherever they may go. (*Loud and prolonged applause*).

Mr. W. W. Mayne.—I am extremely grateful for the very kind words that Mr. Sprott has spoken on my behalf. I find it very difficult to reply. All I can say is that I have enjoyed very greatly the period for which I served as U.P.A.S.I. Coffee Scientific Officer and I think I can say the same for the period since I took over the secretaryship, although during the last month or so, when I have been gradually handing over to Mr. Mitchell, the new Secretary, I have a feeling of considerable relief. With regard to my service with Coffee Scientific Department, it has been a period of very great happiness to me and I can assure you that happiness was due to the many friends I have made in the coffee industry throughout South India. A very great proportion of the work that I have been able to do would have been impossible had it not been for the many coffee planters who assisted me. What I learnt from them is probably greater than what they learnt from me. It has been a very happy time indeed. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I am now severing my U.P.A.S.I. connection, but I shall still be in South India and I expect we shall be up here now and again and we shall always be happy to meet again the friends we have made during my period as Coffee Scientific Officer. Thank you very much, Sir. (*Applause*).

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, have I your permission to move the resolution of thanks to the Mysore Government from this Association. It is not on the Agenda.

Permission being given, the Chairman moved the following resolution :—

'That this Association places on record its high appreciation of the help and co-operation accorded by the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore to the Association's Coffee Scientific Officer and his Staff during the past seventeen years.

'That this Association recognizes with gratitude the keen interest and unfailing assistance which the Government of Mysore has always devoted to the Coffee Industry and welcomes the latest manifestation of this interest in its willingness to place its Coffee Research Organisation at the disposal of the Indian Coffee Board in the interests of a wider service to the whole Coffee Industry in South India.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman.—If nobody has any further questions or remarks, I declare the meeting closed.

U.P.A.S.I. COFFEE PRODUCT SECTION

Budget 1946-47

EXPENDITURE ITEMS	Original estimate 1945-46			Actuals 1st half of 1945-46			Revised Estimate 1945-46			Estimate 1946-47		
	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
Establishment :—												
Scientific Officer's Salary ..	5,100	0	0	2,550	0	0	5,100	0	0	2,550	0	0
Assistant Scientific Officer's Salary ..	2,280	0	0	1,140	0	0	2,280	0	0	2,400	0	0
Clerk's Salary ..	540	0	0	315	0	0	630	0	0	660	0	0
Balehonnur Assistant ..	1,360	0	0	660	0	0	1,360	0	0	1,480	0	0
Field Assistant ..	1,110	0	0	510	0	0	1,065	0	0	1,170	0	0
Allowances :—												
Scientific Officer ..	360	0	0	180	0	0	360	0	0	..	..	..
Assistant Scientific Officer ..	360	0	0	180	0	0	360	0	0	360	0	0
Clerk ..	122	0	0	71	0	0	193	0	0	200	0	0
Dearness allowances ..	1,720	0	0	989	0	0	2,008	0	0	2,200	0	0
General Expenditure :—												
Postage, Stationery and incidentals ..	200	0	0	113	0	0	200	0	0	200	0	0
Library and Periodicals ..	150	0	0	..	..	..	150	0	0	150	0	0
Travelling and Touring ..	1,000	0	0	545	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
Upkeep of Bungalow ..	300	0	0	126	0	0	300	0	0	300	0	0
Research Expenditure—Sidapur ..	1,320	0	0	434	0	0	1,320	0	0	1,320	0	0
Meetings ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,000	0	0
Provident Fund :—												
..	928	0	0	387	0	0	850	0	0	710	0	0
Office :—												
Insurance ..	35	0	0	35	0	0	35	0	0	35	0	0
Depreciation ..	850	0	0	..	..	..	850	0	0	850	0	0
Passage Money Fund :—												
..	540	0	0	270	0	0	540	0	0	..	..	..
Total ..	18,275	0	0	8,505	0	0	18,601	0	0	20,585	0	0



INCOME						Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
Cess on 32,372 acres @ 3½ annas	..	..	..	..	..	7,081	0	0			
„ 14,334 „ @ 1½	..	..	..	..	..	1,344	0	0			
Madras Government Grant	..	..	..	..	..				8,425	0	0
Coorg Government Grant	..	..	..	..	..				9,625	0	0
									3,000	0	0
									Total		
									21,050	0	0
ESTIMATED EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE Rs. 465.											

U.P.A.S.I. COFFEE SECTION

REPORT OF THE COFFEE SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

1. COFFEE SECTION

1. **Membership.**—The subscribing coffee acreage rose from 47,879 acres on 1st April 1945 to 51,375 acres on 31st March 1946. Out of a total of 237 coffee members, 158 members owning 44,151 acres paid the cess for the maintenance of the Scientific Section.

Minor products owned by members amounted to 14,103 acres of cardamoms, 479 acres of cinchona and 468 acres of pepper. The total area represented on the Section at the end of the year was 66,425 acres.

2. **Committee.**—*Coffee Section Committee.*—The following assumed office on the Coffee Section Committee at the close of the last Annual General Meeting:—W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott, Messrs. S. H. Dennis, N. B. Athrey, V. M. Asirvatham Nadar and D. C. Kothari. W/Cdr. Sprott was elected Chairman and representative of the Section on the Executive Committee. Messrs. W. Jefferies and Eric Stanes were co-opted by the Committee under Rule 55(b) to assist them in matters relating to the future organization of the coffee industry. At the time of writing this report W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott has resigned his chairmanship owing to his impending departure to the U.K.

Indian Coffee Board.—The Association continued to be represented on the Board by Sir Frederick James and Messrs. Ivor Bull and N. B. Athrey. On 1st April Sir Frederick James resigned his seat on the Board and it was later filled by Mr. N. G. B. Kirwan.

Mysore Coffee Experimental Station Advisory Committee.—Mr. R. G. Foster continued to represent the Association on this Committee.

3. **Meetings.**—A general meeting of the Coffee Section was held on 28th March, 1946, to consider the budget. The Committee held three meetings during the year. The Annual General Meeting was held on 16th August, 1945.

4. **Coffee Section Reserve.**—To the sum of Rs. 18,291-0-6 brought forward in the Coffee Section Reserve account on 1-4-1945, interest amounting to Rs. 770-5-0 was added during the year, thus making a total of Rs. 19,061-5-6 on 31st March, 1946.

2. SCIENTIFIC SECTION

5. **Staff.**—Mr. W. W. Mayne continued to be in charge of the Coffee Scientific Section. Messrs. T. V. Pattabhiraman and K. S. Gopalakrishnan continued to carry on research work at Sidapur and Balehonnur respectively. The two field assistants appointed in the previous year continued to work at Sidapur. The administration report of the Coffee Scientific Officer will be issued as usual by the Mysore Agricultural Department.

6. **Accounts, 1945-46.**—The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 18,523-1-3 and income Rs. 21,227-15-0. At the close of the year the excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 2,704-13-9 was transferred to the Coffee Scientific Section Fund which now has Rs. 12,487-4-7 at its credit.

7. **Budget, 1946-47.**—The estimated expenditure for the current year amounts to Rs. 20,585 and the income Rs. 21,050 allowing for an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 465.

3. MARKETING, PROPAGANDA AND RESEARCH

8. **Coffee Market Expansion Act, 1942.**—The sale and marketing of coffee continued to be governed by the above Act.

The Act, which was promulgated in 1942, is due to expire on 30th June, 1947.

9. **Indian Coffee Board.**—Diwan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi continued as Controller of Coffee and Rao Sahib M. J. Simon as the Secretary and Propaganda Officer. The propaganda activities of the Board continued during the year and good progress was reported from many centres.

10. **Future Organization of the Coffee Industry.**—Reference was made in last year's report to the question of the future of the Indian Coffee Board and the proposal to elicit the opinion of members on the future organization of the coffee industry. The Committee is glad to record the considerable progress made in this direction during the year under review. In pursuance of a resolution adopted at the last annual general meeting, a

letter was sent to the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, requesting them to convene a coffee conference at an early date to consider the organization of the industry after the expiry of the Coffee Market Expansion Act. At the same time, a questionnaire was issued to all coffee members and district associations with a view to ascertaining their opinion in the matter, and this elicited replies representing a total area of 80,368 acres of coffee. 99 per cent of these replies expressed the view that there should be statutory regulation compelling delivery of the entire crop to a single pool, 82 per cent favoured a five-year regulation period, 80 per cent approved of the Committee's general scheme for the marketing of coffee and a large majority agreed that the Board should be given reserve power to regulate or control extensions of acreages under coffee. In agreeing with these replies, the Committee, however, decided to recommend that (1) a five-year regulation period should be subject to a review at the end of the first three years when, if a two-thirds majority of the registered coffee acreages so decided, regulation should be discontinued at the end of three years, and (2) the proposal to confer reserve powers on the Board to control extensions of coffee acreages should be left for discussion at the proposed coffee conference to be convened by the Government of India.

The Committee's recommendations were then forwarded to the Indian Coffee Board so that the Board may know the point of view of coffee growers on this important subject.

In response to the Association's request the Government of India convened a conference of coffee interests at Bangalore on 22nd April, 1946 and it was attended, on the invitation of the Indian Coffee Board, by W/Cdr. J. H. Sprott on behalf of the Coffee Section Committee in addition to the three U.P.A.S.I. Representatives to the Board. The Conference decided, among other matters, that the regulated marketing of coffee should continue by statute after 30th June, 1947, that the necessary legislation should be enacted in good time, that, with a few exceptions, such a central marketing system should be without a time-limit, that it should include all coffee estates irrespective of their extent, that there should be no internal sales quota and the entire production of each estate should be tendered to the pool, that powers need not be vested in the Indian Coffee Board to restrict planting, that the designation of the Controller of Coffee should be changed to Chief Marketing Officer and that his appointment should be made by the Central Government after consultation with the Indian Coffee Board.

11. Coffee Prices.—Coffee prices continued to be under the ceiling fixed by the Board. In October 1945 Mr. A. L. Cooke, Chief Cost Accountant with the Government of India, toured the coffee growing areas of South India with a view to enquire into the production costs of coffee. He met the coffee growers of Nilgiris at a meeting convened by the Nilgiri Planters' Association at 'Glenview' on 4th October and discussed with them questions relating to cost of production. Satisfaction was expressed by growers at the manner in which their representations were considered.

12. Future organization of Coffee Scientific Research.—An important development in the direction of Coffee Scientific research was witnessed during the year. On 27th February, 1946, the Government of Mysore issued an order on the proposed institution of a Central Coffee Research Station and generously offered to place the Government Coffee Experimental Farm at Balehonnur at the disposal of the Indian Coffee Board. The Board accepted the offer and took over the Farm with effect from 1st June, 1946. A new and comprehensive scheme of coffee research was prepared by Mr. Mayne and forwarded to the Board for consideration.

13. Income-tax on coffee grown in Mysore but cured in British India.—The question of British Indian income-tax liability on coffee grown in Mysore State but cured in British India was considered during the year. The income-tax sub-committee of the U.P.A.S.I. recommended that the question be placed before the Central Board of Revenue pointing out that the assessment of Mysore Coffee growers in respect of sales of coffee cured in Mangalore would have a disastrous effect on the old established curing business in Mangalore, and that such an assessment would inevitably result in the coffee curing centre being moved to Mysore and in addition to the injury to Mangalore there would be a loss of income to the Central Board. The question is still under correspondence with Government.

4. GENERAL

14. Fertilisers.—There was a distinct improvement in the supply of lease-lend sulphate of ammonia and for the year ending 30th June 1946 a total of 4,000 tons was allotted to estates in South India. Government were recently informed that a number of large estates have planned extensive manuring programmes which are already considerably overdue and that to enable this to be carried out a larger allotment of sulphate of ammonia is needed for the year 1946-47. A reply has been received to the effect that Government are not yet aware of the quantity which is likely to be allotted by the Combined Food Board for this period.

5. MINOR PRODUCTS

15. Export of Cardamoms.—During the year the Government of India made important modifications in their method of handling cardamom exports resulting finally in the withdrawal of export licenses and the restoration of normal trade channels. The thanks of the Association and of the Cardamom growers, in particular, are due to Sir Frederick James for his untiring efforts which led to this decision.

16. Future of the Cardamom industry.—As in the case of coffee, the question of the future organization of the cardamom industry came up for active consideration during the year. In the opinion of the Cardamom Sub-Committee of the U.P.A.S.I., the condition of the industry is such as to need planning by an organization of the type of the Coffee Board, established by statute. On 16th March, 1946, a conference of Cardamom interests and Government was held in Madras, under the presidentship of Sir Herbert Stewart, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, to consider the proposal for setting up an All-India Cardamom Board. M/s Ivor Bull and D. A. Sladen attended the Conference as U.P.A.S.I. representatives and the Secretary as an observer. Expressing the views of the U.P.A.S.I., Mr. Bull strongly urged the desirability of centralised control which would enable price fluctuations to be flattened out and give a square deal to the producer, the merchant and the consumer. There was general agreement on the suggestions that (1) all cardamom crops should be tendered to a central pool where they would be sold by auction after the Board had determined the quantity required for the internal market and that which could be released for export, and (2) finance may be raised by levying a cess at the rate of 6 pias per lb. on dried cardamoms.



As to the constitution of the Board the U.P.A.S.I. recommended that Government (including States), growers, and merchants be given 7, 11 and 4 seats respectively. In winding up the conference the Chairman stated that the discussions were purely exploratory and that the views of the Conference would be conveyed to the Central Government.

Up to the time of writing nothing is known about the Government's decision.

W. JEFFERIES
S. H. DENNIS
D. C. KOTHARI
N. B. ATHREY
V. M. ASIRVATHA NADAR

COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 1946

EXPENDITURE						Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
<i>Establishment :—</i>											
Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	...	5,100	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officer's Salary	...	...	...	...	...	2,280	0	0			
Balehonnur Assistant	...	...	...	...	...	1,360	0	0			
Clerk's Salary	...	...	...	...	...	630	0	0			
Field Assistants	...	...	...	...	...	1,062	2	0	10,432	2	0
<i>Allowances :—</i>											
Scientific Officer	...	...	...	...	...	360	0	0			
Assistant Scientific Officers	...	...	...	...	...	360	0	0			
Clerk	...	...	...	...	...	141	12	0			
Dearness Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	2,115	14	0	2,977	10	0
<i>General :—</i>											
Postage, Stationery and Incidentals	...	...	...	...	...	190	11	6			
Library and Periodicals	...	...	...	...	...	32	0	0			
Travelling and Touring	...	...	...	...	...	1,380	7	6			
Upkeep of Bungalow	...	...	...	...	...	289	0	0			
Research Expenditure—Sidapur	...	...	...	...	...	853	9	3			
Medical Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	86	6	0	2,832	2	3
<i>Office :—</i>											
Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	35	3	0			
Depreciation	...	...	...	...	...	850	0	0	885	3	0
Provident Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...			856	0	0
Passage Money Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...			540	0	0
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE TRANSFERRED TO COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION FUND						...			2,704	13	9
Total						...			21,227	15	0
INCOME						Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
By Coffee Product Cess	...	...	...	...	...				8,590	9	0
„ Share of Madras Government Grant	...	...	...	...	...				9,625	0	0
„ Coorg Government Contribution	...	...	...	...	...				3,000	0	0
„ Sale of Publications	...	...	...	...	...				12	6	0
Total						...			21,227	15	0

COFFEE SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Coffee Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at 'Glenview', on Friday the 16th August, 1946, commencing at 11-15 a.m.

The following members were present :—

MAJOR A. L. HILL (*Chairman*), MESSRS. N. B. ATHREY, V. M. ASIRVATHAM NADAR (*Members*), L. E. MITCHELL (*Secretary*).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., *per* Mr. A. G. MacGregor.
 APPAYYA, Mr. B. M.; APPIAH, Mr. M. P.; BALL, MAJOR E. P.; CAMPBELL TRUST; ELK HILL COFFEE ESTATES, LTD.; FENNELL, Mr. E. A., & LT.-COL. H. F. MURLAND; HOROOR SYNDICATE LTD.; HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J.; MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. D. I.; MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; MORGAN, Mr. J. S. H.; NARAYANA SHETTY, Mr. D.; YOUSUF ALI KHAN, *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
 ATHREY, Mr. N. B.; RAMANAN, C. S. V., AND OTHERS, *per* Mr. N. B. Athrey.
 BRUNNER, MRS. C.; CAREY, COMDR. H. F.; CRAWFORD, Mr. C. S., AND LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD; CRAWFORD, Mr. C. S., LT.-COL. W. L. CRAWFORD AND G. V. R. FREND; ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD.; GILBY, Mr. E. H.; GILBY, Mr. R. A.; LESLIE, Mr. A. W.; MALABAR INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.; MATHEW, Mr. K. M.; MORRIS, Mr. C. W. G.; MORRIS, Mr. A. E. C.; O'SULLIVAN, MRS. B. D.; RYLE, MAJOR C. D.; SHORT BROS. LTD.; SHORT, MRS. M. S. R.; SMITH, Mr. S. A.; THOMAS, Mr. M. A., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
 BOMBAY-BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., *per* Mr. G. R. Simpson.
 CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD.; BICCODE ESTATES LTD.; HOLALU ESTATES LTD.; LINGAPUR ESTATES LTD., *per* Major A. L. Hill.
 FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD.; KALPETTA ESTATES, LTD.; *per* Mr. V. O. Abraham.
 HONAMETTI ESTATE, *per* Mr. R. C. Morris, M.L.A. (*Central*).
 KAIRBETTA ESTATE, *per* LT.-COL. G. A. R. Spain.
 KODERI PLANTATIONS, *per* Mr. J. Yesuthasan.
 NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; SHEVAROY ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.
 NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. G. O. Archard.
 SOGATHORAI NILGIRI TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. J. Yesuthasan.
 SINGARA ESTATE, *per* Mr. N. A. Hawke.
 THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., *per* Mr. W. J. Stonehouse.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ANAMALLAIS, *per* Mr. G. R. Simpson.
 ASSOCIATION OF PLANTERS OF TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. A. V. Thomas.
 COORG, *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
 KANAN DEVANS, *per* Mr. D. M. McIntyre.
 MYSORE, *per* Mr. H. Browne.
 NELLIAMPATHIES, *per* Mr. G. O. Archard.
 NILGIRIS, *per* Mr. E. J. C. Hill.
 NILGIRI-WYNAAD, *per* Mr. S. A. Minkley.

FIRM MEMBERS

ASPINWALL & CO., LTD., *per* Mr. B. H. Whitehorn.
 ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., *per* Mr. F. H. Farmer.
 BROOKE BOND INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. K. W. H. Adlam.
 THOMAS & CO., LTD., A. V., *per* Mr. K. Srinivasan.
 THOMAS & CO. (INDIA) LTD., A. V., *per* Mr. P. K. Nair.

VISITOR

ANANDA RAO, Mr. S.
 Major A. L. Hill, Chairman, presided.
 The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the Meeting.
 The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—The next item on the agenda is to authorise the signing of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Meeting held on 28th March, 1946. Extracts from these were published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 15th May, 1946. Have I your permission to sign the minutes of the proceedings.
 The proceedings were signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Major A. L. Hill, Chairman of the Section, then delivered his address. He said :—
 Gentlemen, the year's crop on the whole was satisfactory and the out-turn was better than in the previous season. Labour, however, continued to be a problem in many districts. With the reduction in basic rations and the difficulty of getting it accustomed to new types of food, planters had a very hard time trying to keep labour.
 The cost of production of coffee continued to rise, mainly owing to the increase in wage rates and in the concessional value of grains issued to labour. If we remember that coffee is a highly fluctuating crop and reckon the loss it has sustained in recent years of slump, we should realize that the profits now earned by estates are to some extent unreal. Some of these profits are earned only at the expense of the future, for there is no question that as soon as more labour and materials are available there will be many improvements to effect in order to put estates back to normal working conditions.

The price of coffee was again carefully investigated during the year. In October last the Cost Accountant of the Government of India visited the South and enquired into costs of coffee production. Opportunities were given to producers in the various districts to put their views before the Cost Accountant and there was general satisfaction at the manner in which these representations were considered. It was pointed out that so long as costs of production continued to rise, any further reduction in price could only be brought about at the expense of the producer. At the last Annual Meeting of the Coffee Section, Mr. Bull stressed the need for steady prices. He urged that, once a detailed examination of costs had been made, prices should be fixed for a three- or four-year period, subject to revision only if costs rose or fell by an agreed percentage. Unless the industry is assured of a certain price level for some years, it is obviously impossible for it to plan for improvement or expansion.

With production costs rising on the one hand and prices more or less stabilised on the other, it is necessary to enquire whether the average yield per acre of coffee estates cannot be raised. This matter seems to have engaged the attention of Government during their cost investigation and the question arose as to why the average yield is surprisingly low. What Government has probably failed to grasp is the fact that these weak areas are chiefly the result of the decade-long pre-war slump, followed by an acute shortage of labour and perhaps, fertilisers during the War. It would be wrong to assume that the present low yield is the result of inefficiency, or unwillingness on the part of the grower to adopt scientific and improved methods of cultivation. As Mr. Mayne explained, in his recent note on the subject, the industry will take steps towards improving the average yield as soon as the position improves with respect to the supply of labour, food and estate requisites and transport facilities. Government can now help the industry by speeding up these supplies and facilities and by reducing some of the burden on the industry. An instance in point is the heavy excise duty of 2 annas per lb. This means a tax on coffee in the cup four times as heavy as that on tea.

On the question of Scientific Research the industry has no two opinions. It believes in the need for large-scale research as an aid to efficient and economic production. The Indian Coffee Board has now taken over this important work and it is hoped that, backed by substantial funds ear-marked for the purpose, considerable progress in this direction will soon be seen. Mr. Mayne has drawn up a comprehensive scheme of coffee research and forwarded it to the Board for consideration.

With the Coffee Market Expansion Act due to expire in less than a year, a major question occupying the minds of coffee planters is that of the future organization of the coffee industry. The resolution passed by the U.P.A.S.I. Coffee Section last year requesting the Government of India to convene a conference of all interests concerned was followed with a Questionnaire issued to Coffee members of the Association asking for their views on this important question. Replies to the Questionnaire revealed that the industry was conscious of the benefits that have accrued to it from the present control scheme and wished to see it in operation for some years to come. There was general satisfaction with the scheme of centralised marketing outlined in the Questionnaire, and the need for statutory regulation compelling delivery of the entire crop to a single pool as in the case of the present control scheme. Government responded to the Association's request by convening a conference of coffee interests in Bangalore in April last. The decisions arrived at this conference are almost wholly in accordance with the recommendations made by the Association, and it is a matter for gratification that the beneficial results of co-operative marketing over several years have not been lost sight of by the industry in deciding a course of action for the future. It is expected that suitable legislation will be enacted in good time in accordance with the recommendations of this conference.

Last year the Chairman referred to the ever-increasing production of robusta coffee. The labour needed for the production of this type of coffee is much less than in the case of arabica, and Mr. Bull added that a robusta drive is part of the Coffee Board's propaganda aims. Criticisms heard recently about the Board's lack of interest in this type of coffee are without foundation, and it may be mentioned that there are many robusta growers represented on the Board.

As regards legislation it is well to remember that the industry can expect further moves in this direction, on the basis of the findings of the Rege Labour Investigation Committee. Though the industry welcomes this Report as a useful statistical compilation, it cannot let some of the conclusions reached by the Committee with respect to coffee estates go unchallenged. Questions relating to legislation affecting plantations as a whole are, however, exhaustively dealt with by the U.P.A.S.I. Executive Committee and it is unnecessary, therefore, to consider this subject here in greater detail.

During the year Government made proposals for the compilation of statistics relating to plantations. The proposals made were, however, so complicated and elaborate that Government were informed that it would be advisable to make a less ambitious beginning if statistics were not to be vitiated by serious inaccuracies. The cost of such massive returns would have also to be considered and, with particular reference to coffee, it was pointed out that estates would not be prepared to start such expensive work unless the ceiling price of coffee, fixed by Government, were raised correspondingly.

There was an improvement in the supply of fertilizers during the year, especially sulphate of ammonia, but Government have been informed that a further increase in supply is absolutely necessary during the current year in view of the special manuring programme required by a number of estates.

Cardamoms.—The difficulties in the marketing of cardamoms eased during the year, thanks to the Government of India withdrawing the ban on export as a result of representations made to it by the U.P.A.S.I. and other Associations. Meanwhile the future organisation of the cardamom industry has been considered at a conference of cardamom interests held in Madras in March last and there has been general agreement with the suggestion that the industry needs a scheme of co-operative marketing similar to that of the Indian Coffee Board. More recently a suggestion has come from certain cardamom interests in Travancore that the marketing of cardamoms cannot be considered in the same manner as coffee, that the industry cannot afford a marketing organisation similar to the Coffee Board, and that it would be advisable to have a joint Coffee-Cardamom Board to reduce the incidence of cost on cardamom growers. The Madras conference of cardamom interests had recommended a cess of only 6 pies per lb. on dried cardamoms and this seems justifiable for the institution of a marketing board exclusively for cardamoms. The Coffee Board has already many duties to perform, and cardamom growers might be well advised not to ask that Board to assume their responsibilities as well.

Cinchona.—During the year there were no developments of particular importance to this crop. The growers of cinchona should, however, be forewarned of the new drug "PALUDRINE" which threatens to become a serious competitor to their product in the not too distant future.

The Coffee industry has to face the future without the help of Sir Frederick James and Mr. Wilson Mayne. It will feel their absence for a long time to come, but will, I trust, remember with gratitude their admirable work for much longer.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS, 1945-46

The Chairman.—The next item is to consider the Report of the Committee and the Accounts for the year 1945-46. Copies have already been circulated to you. Has any member any questions to ask or remarks to make on the Report or the Accounts? If not, I move from the Chair:—

'That the Report of the Coffee Section Committee and the Accounts of the Coffee product Section for the year 1945-46 be adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

COFFEE SCIENTIFIC SECTION

The Chairman.—The Report of the Coffee Scientific Section for the year 1945-46 has been prepared by Mr. T. V. Pattabhiraman, Asst. Coffee Scientific Officer, but owing to printing difficulties, it has not been possible to submit the printed report in time for this meeting. I propose, therefore, to ask Mr. T. V. Pattabhiraman to describe the salient features of the Report.

Mr. Pattabhiraman then addressed the meeting giving a resume of the most important features of the Report, and the Report was adopted.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—Some difficulty has been experienced by your Committee this year owing to delay and irregularities in submitting nominations for the new Committee. Partly on this account and partly for administrative reasons your Committee have recommended and the Executive Committee have approved that the Coffee Section Committee be increased from five to six members for the ensuing year only by the addition of one general seat. The following members having been duly nominated are declared elected.

Madras Presidency, Travancore and Cochin	..	Mr. N. B. Athrey.
General Seats	..	1. Mr. D. C. Kothari. 2. Mr. P. V. Chorian.

Your Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee ask you to instruct the new Committee to co-opt the following members whose nominations by the Districts concerned for various reasons, e.g., postal difficulties, were late in arrival:—

Coorg	..	..	Major A. L. Hill.
Mysore	..	..	Mr. Sylvester Pais.
General	..	..	Mr. V. M. Asirvatham Nadar.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—In connection with the proposal for increasing the number of seats, would it not be possible to meet the situation without increasing the number of seats. It might create a precedent. We may have to increase the seats for the Tea Section Committee next year. It will be a dangerous precedent. I feel that this might create some ill feeling if seats were not added to the Tea Section Committee, if there are extra members.

The Chairman.—The position is rather difficult. We wish to avoid any controversy over the election. There was not one single valid nomination received within the time prescribed. We started the Coffee Section with 7 members and now we have only 5 members. I do not think that increasing the number of seats by one for one year is a dangerous precedent. Further the Committee can co-opt members for a specific purpose.

The Secretary.—The Executive Committee considered this recommendation of the Coffee Section Committee and some members of the Committee were a little bit perturbed at the possibility of this being regarded as a precedent. Apart from the present issue of irregular and late nominations I pointed out to the Executive Committee that from an administrative point of view, it was desirable, with people expecting to go on home leave, that all Committees should have their full strength of 7 for the next year. In the case of the Coffee Committee the Executive Committee considered that for the ensuing year six members would be adequate. Members of the Executive Committee were finally satisfied that the increase of one seat this year would not create a precedent.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—In view of what the Secretary has said, I withdraw my opposition.

It was unanimously agreed to instruct the new Committee to co-opt Major A. L. Hill and Messrs. Sylvester Pais and V. M. Asirvatham Nadar to the Coffee Section Committee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—The next item is 'Any Other Business'. Has any member any subject to discuss under this heading?

Mr. K. Srinivasam.—In the fixation of coffee prices, the margin between the price paid to the producer and the price realised at auctions by the Indian Coffee Board is so wide that the Board, I think, is making a very huge profit. I think the margin is more than justifiable. The advantage should either go to the producer or to the consumer. If prices are going to be stabilised, let it be known to Government that prices should be based either on a better appreciation of factors relating to the cost of production or on the advantage to the consumer. The Indian Coffee Board should not be allowed to make a profit out of it. I think it is a matter for the Committee.

The Chairman.—I am not on the Indian Coffee Board, and I cannot say whether it is quite right to say that the Coffee Board makes money.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.—As a member of the Coffee Control Board, I would like to say that the present position actually is that basic prices are fixed by the Indian Coffee Board. The present rate is Re. 1-2-0 per point. That is the basic price. If the prices realised at the auctions are higher after meeting the administrative costs of the Board, the planter will receive the difference. You know last year we received Re. 1-3-6 per point, i.e. 1½ annas above the basic rate. If the same thing happens again this year we shall receive an extra allowance per point this year also. Hence, there is no question of the Coffee Board making any profit.



- Mr. K. Srinivasan.**—I am not quite convinced. I still feel the Board is making a profit.
- Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.**—I think we can safely leave it to Government to protect the interests of the consumer and to the Indian Coffee Board the interests of the producers.
- The Chairman.**—As there is no other business, I now declare the meeting closed.

U.P.A.S.I. RUBBER SECTION

REPORT OF THE RUBBER SECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

1. **Membership.**—The subscribing area under Rubber rose from 55,861 acres on 1st April 1945 to 59,463 acres on 31st March 1946, i.e. by 3,602 acres. The number of subscribing members rose from 59 to 61 during the year.

2. **Meetings.**—The Annual General Meeting was held at Cochin on 28th July 1945. Since the last report, the Rubber Section Committee has held 2 meetings at Cochin.

3. **The Committee.**—At the Annual General Meeting held in July 1945 the following were elected members of the Rubber Section Committee:—Messrs. E. Lefevre, H. R. Carson Parker, H. B. Macpherson, Lt.-Col. J. A. Davidson and W. Jefferies. Mr. K. Srinivasan was co-opted as a member. Mr. E. Lefevre was elected Chairman of the Committee and Mr. H. B. Macpherson as representative of the Section on the Executive Committee of the Association. During the year, Messrs. Lefevre and Carson Parker resigned their seats on their impending departure on Home Leave and their places were filled by Messrs. F. G. Wallace and J. T. Murray respectively. Mr. Wallace was elected Chairman of the Section. Later in the year Mr. H. B. Macpherson resigned his seats on the Section Committee as well as the Executive Committee on proceeding to the U. K. These two seats were then filled by Messrs. E. Lefevre and F. G. Wallace respectively, Mr. Lefevre having returned from Home Leave.

4. **Product Cess.**—No cess was collected during the year. A sum of Rs. 1,297-6-0 was incurred on account of travelling expenses of the Section's delegate who attended the Conference convened by the Government of India in Delhi on 13th December 1945. Since further expenditure of this nature is likely to be incurred in the coming months, and it has been decided that Committee members' Travelling expenses should in future be borne by the respective Sections, it will be necessary to collect a rubber product cess from members of the Section. It is intended to bring this proposal before the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

The amount at the credit of the Rubber Section reserve on 31-3-1946 was Rs. 684-13-0.

5. **Indian Rubber Production Board.**—During the year, Mr. E. Lefevre resigned his seat as U.P.A.S.I. representative on the Indian Rubber Production Board and his place was taken by Mr. F. G. Wallace.

6. **Rubber Prices.**—The question of rubber prices engaged the attention of the Committee throughout the year. Reference was made in last year's report to the Government's proposal to fix a flat rate of Re. 1 per lb. for Group I Rubber. It was further stated that the Committee were not satisfied with this and had proposed that the price be fixed equivalent to the f.o.b. price then granted to Ceylon, *viz.*, 106.9 cents per 100 lbs. It was also noticed that whereas in Ceylon the price was to be in force for one year, no such definite period had been fixed in the case of India. On 20th November 1945 the Government announced its intention to revert to the basic price of Rs. 77-5-0 per 100 lbs. of Group I Rubber with effect from 1st February 1946, explaining that the decision had been arrived at after a careful investigation of production costs. A protest against this price reduction was lodged by growers at the Conference between Government and Rubber interests held in Delhi in December 1945. As from 1st May, Government raised the price to Rs. 87-1-0 per 100 lbs. Group I Rubber and stated that the price increase was intended to promote the rehabilitation of estates and maintenance of efficient production. No statement has been made covering the period for which the price is to be held at Rs. 87-1-0. Plainly no price over an indefinite period will achieve the objects of Government, and under current conditions a basic price of Rs. 87-1-0 even if guaranteed for an extended period will not support the development sought by Government.

7. **Rubber Control and Production Order, 1946.**—This Order terminates the Government purchase scheme and substitutes purchase by manufacturers under permits issued by the Rubber Controller from approved estates and dealers. The initial working of the new arrangement has not been satisfactory, but it is too early to form any opinion on eventual working of the arrangement.

8. **Future of the Indian Rubber Production Board.**—This was one of the main subjects discussed at the Conference held in New Delhi on 13th December, 1945, at which Messrs. E. Lefevre and H. B. Macpherson represented the U.P.A.S.I. Rubber Section and the Association of Planters of Travancore respectively. It was decided at this Conference to appoint an *Ad Hoc* Committee to examine *inter alia* whether it was desirable to set up an organization to replace the existing Indian Rubber Production Board, and if so, what should be its constitution and functions, if any. The *Ad Hoc* Committee reported that it received replies from plantations covering 57,549 acres, of which 36,043 acres expressed themselves in favour of creating an organization in place of the Indian Rubber Production Board, and 21,506 acres against such a proposal. To consider these and other matters arising therefrom, the Government of India convened a Conference of Rubber interests at Coimbatore on 28th June 1946, at which the U.P.A.S.I. was represented. While the full report of the Conference is awaited, it is reported that the *Ad Hoc* Committee's proposal had been accepted in principle at this Conference.

9. **Future Organization of the Rubber Industry in India.**—The termination of the war has naturally given rise to speculations on the future organization of the rubber industry, and the matter is one of considerable importance to the U.P.A.S.I. Rubber Section. At the Delhi Conference, the Government representatives urged the desirability of a new 'producers' organization', with statutory powers and recognition, taking the place of the Indian Rubber Production Board. The views of producers on this question seem to be sharply divided. While the majority seem to favour the proposal, an important section opposes it on the ground that producers should be free to market their own produce in any manner they like, without control, and that while



control during war-time was essential, peace-time control without good reason was undesirable. The question of future control of the rubber industry is, of course, linked with the future of the Indian Rubber Production Board, which was discussed at the Coimbatore Conference.

10. Cochin State Income-tax on Travancore Rubber.—During the year the Cochin Government proposed to levy income-tax on profits on the sale of rubber produced outside Cochin State but delivered to the Rubber Purchase Officer at Willingdon Island. The proposal was strongly opposed by Rubber interests, particularly those in Travancore. It was explained that the delivery of rubber to the Rubber Purchase Officer on Willingdon Island in Cochin State was an arrangement made by the Central Government to suit that Government. Consequently, it was contended, any liability of Travancore producers and dealers to Cochin income-tax was entirely fortuitous. The Government of India later explained that, since the Rubber Purchase Scheme had been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 1946, and consequently rubber would be sold direct to manufacturers and approved dealers, it was unnecessary to pursue the matter further. This statement is, however, not considered satisfactory, since it does not *prima facie* remove the question of liability to Cochin income-tax in respect of transactions effected prior to 1-4-1946.

11. Labour and Food Situation in Travancore and Cochin.—Since the last report there has been a further deterioration in the food situation in Travancore and Cochin, but this is only in common with the rest of South India. There has been a slight improvement in the Labour Supply position.

12. Malaria.—The Committee wish to record its appreciation of the generous supply of Quinine products from Government for distribution to estates during the year. This has been particularly valuable in combating the high incidence of malaria on many rubber estates.

COONOR, }
July, 1946. }

F. G. WALLACE

LT.-COL. J. A. DAVIDSON

W. JEFFERIES

K. SRINIVASAN

J. T. MURRAY

E. LEFEVRE

... Chairman

Members.

RUBBER SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Rubber Section of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, opened at 11-15 a.m. on Saturday, 27th July 1946, at the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, Cochin.

The following were present:—

MESSRS. F. G. WALLACE (Chairman), E. LEFEVRE, K. SRINIVASAN, J. T. MURRAY AND LT.-COL. J. A. DAVIDSON (Members), AND MR. L. E. MITCHELL (Secretary).

ORDINARY MEMBERS

BE BE RUBBER ESTATES LTD.; COCHIN PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. T. K. Oommen.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE RUBBER CO., LTD.; MURPHY ESTATES LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER AND TEA CO., LTD. STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. B. H. Whitehorn.

KALPETTA ESTATES LTD.; MIDLAND RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; NELLIAMPATHY TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD.

PUNALUR RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES LTD.; RAJAGIRI RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; VELLIAMATTAM RUBBER CO., LTD., *per* Mr. K. Srinivasan.

KERALA CALICUT ESTATES LTD., *per* Mr. F. G. Wallace.

MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., *per* Mr. J. T. Murray.

PULLANGODE RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

MUNDAKAYAM, *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.

SOUTH TRAVANCORE, *per* Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.

FIRM MEMBERS

ASPINWALL & Co., LTD., *per* Mr. E. Lefevre.

ASPINWALL & Co. (TRAVANCORE) LTD., *per* Mr. B. H. Whitehorn.

A. V. THOMAS & Co., LTD.; A. V. THOMAS & Co. (INDIA) LTD., *per* Mr. K. Srinivasan.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD LTD., *per* Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.

VISITOR

Mr. P. Kurian John.

Mr. F. G. Wallace, Chairman of the Section, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING

The Chairman.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting, and the following letter received from the Dewan of Cochin: 'I write to express my regret that I shall not be able to attend the General Meeting of the Rubber Section to-morrow as I have a number of important matters engaging my attention here.'

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Secretary.—I am sorry that the Year Book, 1945, has not yet reached you, even though the printers promised to post the copies on the 24th instant. In the circumstances, I will read out the main items of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the Section held on 28th July, 1945, for your approval. If any member wishes to have any further particulars, I will let him know.

The Chairman.—(After the Secretary read the main points of the proceedings of the previous meeting.) As regards the formation of a new Rubber Board to take the place of the Indian Rubber Production Board, those who have attended the Committee meeting this morning would have heard my report of the Conference. The Conference agreed to the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee. The decisions arrived at have now been sent to the Supply Department of the Government of India. There the matter rests. If there is no other information I can tell you, I will ask you to agree to the minutes of the last meeting being signed.

The proceedings were signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman, Mr. F. G. Wallace, then delivered the following address :—

Gentlemen, having only recently returned to India from an eight months visit to the U.K. and having occupied the Chair for only a few months, I am sure you will forgive me if I address you more briefly than is customary.

With the cessation of hostilities in Europe and the Far East, our difficulties have not in any way diminished. On the contrary conditions are rather more exacting than during the war. I refer mainly to the supply of food grains. We all know that the Government are doing their utmost to relieve the situation and I think we should all be grateful to Government for what they have done. I think I am voicing the wishes of the Rubber Section when I say that Government can be sure of our whole-hearted co-operation in any measure which may be necessary in regard to the supply of food grains.

Government's task is a hard one and ours is no less easy. We had a distinct grouse against Government when on November 20th, 1945, Government announced its intention to revert to the basic price of Rs. 77-5-0 per 100 lbs. of Group 1 Rubber with effect from 1st February 1946. Government stated that their decision had been arrived at after a careful investigation of production costs. Producers were not consulted and I can only assume that if an investigation was made it must have been from figures relating to out of date production costs.

A protest against this reduction was lodged by producers and it was then, presumably, that the Government detailed a cost accountant to investigate. This, gentlemen, I understand, made a very exhaustive study of the position, and perhaps the increase in the price of rubber from Rs. 77-5-0 to Rs. 87-1-0 per 100 lbs. of Group 1 rubber was a direct result of his report. On your behalf, I thank Mr. P. Kurian John, the Rubber Production Commissioner, for so ably putting forward our case for an increase in the price of rubber. (*Applause.*) It will have been noted that Government gave this increase of Rs. 10 per 100 lbs. for the specific purpose of rehabilitation of estates and maintenance of efficient production. I do not hesitate to say that with present cost of production an extra Rs. 10 per 100 lbs. will be of very little help in the cost of rehabilitation and will have little bearing on the maintenance of efficient production.

Future of the Indian Rubber Production Board.—As stated in your Committee's report the question of future control of the industry is linked with the future of the Rubber Production Board. The Rubber Production Board is due to cease functioning in September next, and it was with this in view that an *Ad Hoc* Committee was appointed to examine the position and made recommendations as to future control. After a lot of exceedingly hard and careful study the *Ad Hoc* Committee produced their recommendations. These recommendations were sent out to all estates of 100 acres or over, which were asked to vote for or against the recommendations. The outcome is that at a Conference held in Coimbatore in June it was found that a substantial majority of producers was in favour of and accepted the *Ad Hoc* Committee's recommendations that an organisation should be created to take the place of the Indian Rubber Production Board and to seek statutory powers. Briefly this means that when the Indian Rubber Production Board ceases to function there may be an organization, representative of producers, Government and dealers, if the Governments concerned also approve. (*Applause.*)

RUBBER PRODUCT CESS

The Chairman.—Your Committee have recommended a cess of 1 anna per acre to raise funds for meeting the expenditure of Committee members in attending meetings of the Section and any delegation expenses incurred by representatives of the Section in attending Government and other conferences.

Moved by Mr. E. Lefevre and seconded by Mr. J. T. Murray, the following resolution was passed unanimously.

'That, in accordance with Rule 13 (a), the Rubber Product Cess for the financial year 1st April 1946 to 31st March 1947, to be collected from each ordinary member of the Association owning a total area of more than one hundred acres of Rubber, shall be the rate of one anna per acre.'

ANNUAL REPORT, 1945-46

The Chairman.—I think the Report of the Committee covers the activities of the Section during the year. If anybody has got any question to ask, I shall do my best to satisfy him.

Moved by Mr. K. Srinivasan and seconded by Mr. B. H. Whitehorn, the following resolution was carried unanimously.

'That the Report of the Rubber Section Committee for the year 1945-46 be adopted.'

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Secretary.—The following nominations have been received :—

Cochin and Malabar	..	..	Mr. F. G. Wallace.
South Travancore	..	..	Mr. H. R. Carson Parker.
General..	..	..	1. Mr. A. Meadows.
		..	2. Mr. K. Srinivasan.

No nomination has been received for the Mundakayam seat, but the Mundakayam Planters' Association has suggested the name of Mr. E. Lefevre for this seat. The new Committee can co-opt Mr. E. Lefevre at their first meeting.

The Chairman.—There being sufficient nominations, I declare that the above members stand elected to the Rubber Section Committee for the year 1945-46.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—The next item is 'Any Other Business'. Any member wishing to bring up any subject may please do so.

Mr. E. Lefevre.—I would like to ask Mr. Kurian John to tell us what happened to the decisions arrived at the Coimbatore Conference.

Mr. P. Kurian John.—As far as I know, the draft minutes of the Conference were sent to the Government of India, who are scrutinising them for preparing a note to be sent to all members who attended the Conference. At the same time, the Government of India are consulting the various Governments concerned. That is what I have been privately informed. I am shortly writing to Government to expedite their decision.

The Chairman.—Then, supposing the Governments concerned are not in favour of a new Board, what is the position, Mr. Kurian John?

Mr. P. Kurian John.—I cannot say. The position may become *status quo ante*.

The Chairman.—Thank you, Mr. Kurian John.

With a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. K. Srinivasan to the Chair and to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce for kindly lending their room for the Rubber Section, the meeting terminated.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of a General Meeting of the subscribers to the Labour Department of the U.P.A.S.I., held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on Thursday the 28th March, 1946, commencing at 10 a.m.

The following were present :—

MESSRS. C. L. J. HUMPHREYS (*Chairman*), M. R. COGHAN (*Control Committee Member*), AND R. UNWIN (*Director*).

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. J. E. Sampson.

ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. H. C. Boyd.

BEN GORM ESTATE, *per* Mr. E. C. Sylvester.

KAIRBETTA ESTATE, *per* Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.

KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. J. E. Sampson.

MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD.; *per* M. R. Coghlan.

MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD.; *per* Wing Commander J. H. Sprott.

NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. Q. E. McConnell.

OOGHULLY ESTATE, *per* Mr. S. H. Dennis.

PEERMALAI TEA CO., LTD.; PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD.; POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD.; PULLANGODE RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES LTD.; STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER & TEA CO., LTD.; TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD.; VAGHAMON TRAVANCORE TEA CO., LTD.; *per* Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.

STANMORE (ANAMALLAI) ESTATES LTD.; *per* Mr. H. Gerry.

VISITORS

Mr. N. B. Athrey, Mr. I. W. Finlayson, Mr. E. J. C. Hill.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, Chairman of the Control Committee, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING

The Chairman.—I will ask the Director to read the notice calling the meeting.

The notice was read by the Director.

OBITUARY

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, I will now ask you to rise for a moment. Since our last meeting we have sustained a great loss by the sudden death of Mr. Isaac Moses, Chief Agent, Nagercoil, our oldest and one of the most able and trusted servants the Department has ever had the good fortune to employ. I know you will join with me in this mark of our respect and in sending to Mrs. Moses and family our sincere condolences in their bereavement.

(Pause)

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—The next item is to confirm the proceedings of the Eighth Annual General Meeting held on August 17th, 1945. These were printed and circulated to all subscribers. May I have your permission to sign the Minute Book?

Permission being given the Minute Book was signed by the Chairman.

BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1946-47

The Chairman.—In introducing our budget proposals for 1946-47 I should like to say that we hope to close this year with a small surplus, in spite of some additional expenditure due to increased Dearness Allowance to the staff. This item alone now amounts to approximately a seventh of our total expenditure.

There was a further increase in the subscribing acreage during the year and we welcome back the Bombay Burma Plantations and the Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation, Ltd., with effect from April 1st next. Our Tea acreage next year will be 10,500 more than it was at the close of 1944-45 which is an increase of 9% in one year in Tea alone. Naturally this means increased work, which necessitates an increase in staff, but we expect to be able to meet all demands without exceeding the round rupee per acre for Tea. You remember this was the figure I told you last year would probably be required in 1946-47, when the full effect of the expansion scheme would be felt. I may mention that a copy of our provisional budget for 1946-47, forecasting rates of Re. 1 per

for Tea, 10 annas 8 pies for Coffee and 2 annas for Rubber was sent to the South Indian Association in London in December last and no comment has yet been received.

In contrast with Tea, our Coffee acreage shows very little change. Approximately 1,000 acres are joining from the 1st April but as some areas have dropped out, the actual increase will be small. Nevertheless coffee subscribers, who have perhaps suffered most from the shortage of labour, have been urging us to provide more services, some going as far as to demand direct recruitment by the Department. We have had, however, to keep in mind the fact that the cost of that part of the Department serving Coorg and Mysore is now more than the subscriptions received and if charged with a reasonable share of overhead expenses, would be running at a loss. As the Planters' Associations of Coorg and Mysore are mainly concerned we sent them a note setting out our figures in detail and asked for their comments. We pointed out that extra services could not be expected at the present rate of subscription as those even now provided are not fully covered by income. The remedy appears to be either a substantial increase in the number of coffee subscribers or an increased rate for coffee. I am glad to say that both Associations have accepted our arguments. Both have agreed that the districts serving them should be self-supporting and that there must be an increase of revenue by one means or another.

Your Committee proposes to wait and see if their appeal for new coffee subscribers is successful during the coming year. If not, we intend to ask for an increase in the rate of subscription for coffee subscribers for 1947-48.

Your Committee is considering the possibility of subdividing the Coimbatore Division and appointing a separate Superintendent to be in charge of the old Mysore-Mangalore Divisions. There are already 28 agencies in Coimbatore Division, which is rather too much for one Superintendent, and two or three more agencies will have to be opened during the coming year as a result of the influx of new subscribers. If our plans materialise, the new Superintendent would probably be stationed in Mysore. He would have a small office staff so that members using the Mysore-Mangalore Divisions would be able to correspond with him direct.

It will mean asking coffee subscribers to pay the same rate as Tea (Re 1) but this would be made well worthwhile by the increased efficiency which will be obtained. It will not be possible to bring about this change for another year as a superintendent must first be trained for the post. This will also give us time to ascertain the views of those using the Mysore-Mangalore Divisions.

I would like to take this opportunity of stressing the fact that it is your Committee's opinion that the Overhead Staff already have sufficient work to do and that the facilities of the Department cannot be further increased without additional Supervisory Staff.

If you have any questions to ask I shall do my best to answer them.

If no one has any remarks to make I propose from the Chair :—

'That the estimates for 1946-47 as circulated be, and are, hereby adopted.'

The motion was carried nem con.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The Chairman.—I now propose from the Chair :—

'That the Subscription Rates for 1946-47 be as follows :—

Tea	Re 1 per Acre.
Coffee	10 annas 8 pies per Acre.
Rubber & Minor Products	2 annas per Acre.'

May I have your approval?

The motion was carried unanimously.

LABOUR POSITION

The Chairman.—At our last meeting a great deal of the discussion centred on propaganda and ways and means of relieving the labour shortage caused by Government competition for labour, but since then the position has entirely changed, due to the end of the War. We were then supplicants to Government but the boot is now on the other leg and the Government is much concerned that we should absorb as much labour as possible from among ex-service and ex-labour unit men. We have been, and still are, in close touch with both the Civil Government and the Army through the Chief Liaison Officer in Madras (now an old friend, Col. English) and have worked out what we consider will be the best method of serving everybody's aims. We are paying for the cost of posters and handbills, up to a limit of Rs. 1,000 in the first instance, for our own use. These are being supplied by Government, to our design, and its own share will be distributed by Government through civil officers and the Director of Publicity. The Chairman of the Districts Soldiers and Sailors Boards, the Demobilisation Officers and Special Assistants to Collectors, for the purpose of replacing ex-service men in civil life, have all been given lists of our agents and as men suitable either as suppliers or as labourers, come out of the Army, our agents are sent their names and addresses, etc. They can then be put in touch with a supplier recruiting in their home area and, if willing, can be absorbed with their families on our estates. The Special Assistants to Collectors send their tour programmes to us and our agents are under orders to contact them at every opportunity. These arrangements have not been made without a considerable amount of trouble and argument, but they do appear to provide a workable scheme whereby every suitable ex-service man can be contacted and offered work. We are indebted to the authorities for accepting our plans *in toto*. Up to the present, however, results have been infinitesimal though this is not our fault and was more or less foreseen. For one thing the number of releases to date is far smaller than was at first expected. The actual figures are given to us in confidence but I can tell you that the numbers so far amount, in most of our important recruiting areas, to a few hundreds only, and not enough to affect the position at all. Secondly the men come out with comparatively large sums in cash and are not interested in any work till it begins to dwindle. Also a great many want Government jobs and until these are filled and the other factors lose their force it is unlikely we shall get many of the men to join us. Col. English will keep us informed of the rate of release in each District so we shall be in a position to direct our subscribers when the full tide of demobilisation sets in, and I do not think anything more can be done in this direction at present.

As you know the recent cut in rations has introduced a new factor, the effect of which is still uncertain, and the draught, in South India generally, is another. All we can say is that in some districts labour appears

going up to estates earlier this year. Last year from Coimbatore Division it was late, due to good rains and plentiful work. This year there still appears to be plenty of work in the villages but the fear of famine may be inducing the labour to move up earlier. Whether there will actually be more available, in the end, remains to be seen but it would appear likely this will be the case, i.e. if only estates can provide the rations. I do not want to be too optimistic as we hear of large post-war projects to be undertaken, and these may affect the position, but I feel justified in expressing a hope that things may be easier this year. I may be wrong and subscribers themselves are in as good a position as I am to judge what the future may hold. (Applause.)

The Chairman.—If there are any questions I will do my best to answer them.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—There being no questions we will pass on. Has any subscriber anything to bring up under 'Any Other Business'?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Would you bring up the question of debts payable on labourers who go from one estate to another, Mr. Chairman, or should I do so?

The Chairman.—Will you do it please?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Speaking from experience it seems that under Bye-law 16, as it stands at present, if one estate gets labour from another together with an all-clear certificate from that estate, it is still liable to claims from any other estates on which the labour may have worked before going to the second one, provided that the claims is not more than 18 months old and that not more than Rs. 25 per head per coolie can be claimed.

I took some coolies from Estate A, being careful to get a certificate that they were clear of debt, but suddenly a claim was made on me by Estate B on which the coolies had worked before going to Estate A. The case is still under discussion with the Labour Department, but it appears the bye-laws permit such a claim notwithstanding my all-clear certificate and I think the liability should rest with Estate A, which gave the certificate, and not with me.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—An Estate can cover itself against claims against a maistry by getting him registered. Was the maistry in this case registered with the Labour Department?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—This particular case concerns a few coolies only.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Then it falls under Bye-law 16.

The Chairman.—The idea of this rule is to stop coolies getting advances by going to one estate after another, working only for two or three months on each. The Manager to whom they apply should ask the estate, from which they come, how long they have been working there. If they have been there for not less than 18 months he can accept the clear chit, knowing no further claim can be preferred.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—It is surely difficult to give a definite statement that it is free of debt, when handing over labour in this way.

Wing Commander J. H. Sprott.—I cannot understand how anyone has the right to issue a certificate that the labourer is free of debt save in regard to his own estate!

Mr. S. H. Dennis.—Estate A should have got an all-clear certificate from Estate B before passing it on to the third estate.

The Director.—The claim was only made by Estate B after the coolies had gone to the third one.

Mr. S. H. Dennis.—I think the all-clear certificates is a recognised document.

Mr. H. C. Boyd.—Before giving such a chit, to safeguard himself, one would have to ascertain where they worked previously and I would never give one as regards estates other than my own.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Well, at present it seems I am liable under this bye-law, but I think there should be some limit. Although I had an all-clear chit I might still get other claims, up to 18 months back.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—How long did the coolies work on the first estate?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I do not know.

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—Before they claim on you they must say when the coolies left the estate.

The Director.—The history of this particular case is that the coolies worked on one estate for 3 years and left it in November 1945. They went to another estate and took an advance but by December 7th had left it, and gone to Col. Spain who paid their second debt and received the all-clear. A little later the first employer claimed on Col. Spain and under Bye-law 16 that claim is sustainable. It may be the maistry who advanced them when they left their first employment, suddenly discovered a claim was likely and hurriedly got rid of them, but I have no evidence of this and do not wish to cast any aspersions. It was to protect subscribers engaging such labour, and paying one debt, that Bye-law 16 was altered a couple of years back so as to rule out any claim not preferred within 18 months of default. An estate Manager might or might not be justified in giving an all-clear chit. Personally I do not see how he could, unless he knew the exact history of the coolies for a period of not less than 18 months, but any Manager taking on such labour can, as the Chairman said, protect himself by enquiring about this, and if not satisfied he should not take the coolies.

The Chairman.—If anyone can make a workable suggestion the Control Committee will be glad to consider how the bye-laws could be altered.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—I would like to make No. 2 Estate liable and to introduce a rule to this effect.

The Chairman.—The difficulty would be to get proof that No. 2 knew of the previous debt.

The Director.—From observations of such cases I should say that, as a rule, the maistry on No. 2 is really the person to blame. Having advanced some coolies he gets to know their previous history but does not disclose it to his Manager and is only too anxious to pass the coolies on.

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Something should be done to stop it!

Mr. E. J. C. Hill.—I had experience of a similar case. No. 2 Estate gave me the all-clear with some coolies but later I got claim from the Manager of No. 1, who was the Owner of No. 2. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. R. N. Pryde.—If the Owner of No. 2 was the Manager of No. 1 he should be able to say if they worked on No. 1.



The Chairman.—Well, gentlemen, we have heard your comments regarding this and the outcome appears to be that the crux of the matter is where the coolies were during the previous 18 months. It might be difficult to find this out and difficult to prove No. 2 knew of previous debts. But if the third estate satisfies itself on the point there should be no trouble.

If there is no other subject you wish to discuss I declare the meeting closed.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

Estimates 1946-47

EXPENDITURE	RS	A	P	INCOME	RS	A	P
Establishment—							
Director	9,000	0	0	1,25,055 acres Tea			
Superintendents	4,800	0	0	@ Re. 1 per acre ..	1,25,055	0	0
Assistant Superintendents	2,880	0	0	24,222 acres Coffee			
Bungalows Coolies	1,008	0	0	@ 10 As. 8 Ps. per acre ..	16,148	0	0
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents Rent Allowances	660	0	0	39,556 acres Rubber and M. P.			
Motor Mileage and Travelling Expenses	5,650	0	0	@ 2 As. per acre ..	4,944	8	0
Control Committee	2,500	0	0	Interest	1,394	0	0
Passage Money	900	0	0				
Office Staff—							
Clerks	11,898	0	0				
Clerks' Rent Allowances	924	0	0				
Peons	696	0	0				
Sweepers	96	0	0				
General—							
Potages and Telegrams	3,300	0	0				
Stationery and Printing	5,150	0	0				
Audit	1,300	0	0				
Legal Expenses	100	0	0				
Medical Expenses	350	0	0				
Purchase of Stock and Repairs	1,133	0	0				
Bank Charges and Sundries	600	0	0				
Buildings—							
Rents and Taxes	1,545	0	0				
Repairs, etc.	750	0	0				
Chatrams	3,000	0	0				
Depreciation	2,045	0	0				
Agencies—							
Agents' Pay	27,924	0	0				
Consolidated T. A.	12,228	0	0				
Rents	2,352	0	0				
Peons	10,812	0	0				
Office Sundries and extra T. A.	4,612	0	0				
Provident Fund	5,710	0	0				
Dearness Allowance	21,573	0	0				
Reserve	1,000	0	0				
Total ..	1,46,496	0	0	Total Income ..	1,47,541	8	0
				Total Expenditure ..	1,46,496	0	0
				Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,045	8	0

COONOR,
9th March 1946.

R. UNWIN,
Director.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, U.P.A.S.I.

Report of the Control Committee

For the year ending 31st March, 1946

I. STAFF

Senior.—The posts of Director and Superintendents, Coimbatore and Palamcottah Divisions continued to be held by Messrs. R. Unwin, E. M. Lobo and M. V. Samuel respectively.

Mr. Isaac Moses, Chief Agent, Nagercoil, died after a short illness in December 1945, to the great regret of all who have had to deal with him. Mr. Moses was the oldest and one of the most trusted officers ever employed by the Department and his place will be hard to fill. He was succeeded at Nagercoil by his son Mr. H. D. Moses, Assistant Superintendent, transferred from Coonoor office to which he had been appointed in July 1945.

Mr. R. P. Swamy was appointed as Assistant Superintendent, Coimbatore Division just before the end of the year, in place of Mr. H. D. Moses.



Subordinate.—Additional agencies were opened up in Perintalmanna, Chamrajnagar and Chinna Salem in Coimbatore Division and in Puliangudi in Palamcottah Division where, also, the Tenkasi agency was divided into North and South Tenkasi agencies as in former days.

At the end of the year there were 16 clerks, 50 agents, 1 sub-agent and 68 peons, or a total subordinate staff of 135 as compared with 122 last year.

II. THE DEPARTMENT

Administration.—This continued in the hands of the Director subject to the orders of the Control Committee.

Subscribing Area.—There were increases in the subscribing acreage as follows :—

Tea .. .. .	.. 4,426 acres.
Coffee .. .. .	.. 1,293 „
Rubber and Minor Products .. 296 „	

By mistake in last year's report 1,175 acres of rubber were added to the total twice, (under the head of part year subscription) due to change of ownership. This has now been corrected.

The total areas subscribing at the end of the year are shown in the following statement :—

			RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Tea	1,18,295	acres @ 15 As. per acre	1,10,901	9	0			
	729	„ part year subscription	271	6	6			
	1,19,024					1,11,172	15	6
Coffee	24,401	„ @ 10 As. per acre	15,250	10	0			
	1,148	„ part year subscription	212	3	0			
	25,549					15,462	13	0
R. & M. P.	37,610	„ @ 2 As. per acre	4,701	4	0			
	772	„ part year subscription	37	5	0			
	38,382					4,738	9	0

Extras collected by reason of Rs. 50 minimum subscriptions

	75	10	6
Total	1,31,450	0	0

III. FINANCE

			RS	A	P
Income. —Subscriptions for the year amounted to			1,31,450	0	0
and with Sundry income the total was			1,32,820	2	3
Expenditure. —The estimated expenditure was			1,28,424	9	0
and the actual			1,29,347	6	5
leaving an excess of income over expenditure of			3,472	11	10

The increase of expenditure over the Budget Estimate was due mainly to increased Dearness Allowance for the Indian staff, share of Disincorporation expenses and Victory celebrations.

Details of the expenditure are shown in Appendix 'A'.

IV. LABOUR POSITION

Last year's shortage continued though there were signs of improvement, at least in some districts, towards the end of the year. The sudden end of the war with Japan changed the whole outlook as regards recruitment by the Army, and Government contractors, and put a stop to negotiations with Government to prevent the disastrous competition with which the Planting Industry was then faced. On the other hand Government is now extremely anxious that as many as possible ex-service men of combatant and non-combatant ranks should be absorbed by the Industry and it is co-operating fully in the effort to bring the advantages of estate work to the notice of suitable men. Steps proposed by the Department to this end have been adopted *in toto*. Briefly, these are that every Resettlement officer and the Special Assistants to Collectors for the resettlement of demobilised men have been supplied with a list of our officers and agents, and have instructions to send the names and addresses of every suitable man to the Agent nearest the man's home. This will enable a local labour supplier to contact, and if possible, recruit him and his family into his gang. It was felt that this would be the only way in which there was any chance of success and that, until the men had returned to their village for a rest and to spend their accumulated savings, they were unlikely to settle down to work at all, much less to send for their families who are, of course, equally wanted on the estates. This estimate of the situation has proved to be accurate and, up to date, recruitment of ex-service men has been practically *nil* though this may also be partly due to the fact that numbers so far released have been infinitely smaller than was at first expected. Contact was maintained with the Special Liaison Officer with the Government of Madras, who visited Coonoor in this connection two or three times and it is his considered opinion that until larger numbers have been released, and they have spent some months at home, no great relief can be expected from this particular source of labour.

Towards the end of the year the serious food situation and failure of the North East monsoon introduced a new factor the effect of which can, yet, hardly be foreseen but there was undoubtedly an earlier move to the estates, in some districts, and more labour was going up. Until the food situation becomes more clear, especially as regards rations which estates will be able to give, it is difficult to make any forecast for the future.

A special survey of the possibility of recruiting in Cochin was carried out by the Department in March but the results were disappointing.



V. THE YEAR'S WORK

Cases under investigation.—Two thousand two hundred and fifty-five cases were brought forward and 5,532 new cases were received making a total of 7,787 under investigation, i.e. an increase of 564 or 8% over last year's figure.

Cases disposed of increased by 161 or just over 3% leaving a balance of 2,658 pending against 2,255 last year. This is 34% of the total under investigation against the average of 30% to 31% during the previous three years. The main reason for this was the increase from Rs. 17 to Rs. 25 per head in the maximum amount which can be recovered from defaulters through the Labour Department, and it was only to be expected that this will increase the time taken to dispose of defaulter cases.

Recruiting.—Assistance was given to 1,130 labour suppliers or 118 less than last year's record figure of 1,248, which was 50% in excess of the 1943-44 figure. Similarly there was a decrease of 1,080 labourers despatched, though the total of 18,123 was still 3,300 more than in 1943-44. The decrease was far less in proportion than the drop in total numbers employed on subscribers' estates.

Advances to suppliers and labourers and payments of way expenses, however, increased from Rs. 1,92,202 to Rs. 2,08,739 or an increase of nearly 9%, in spite of decreased numbers. The reason is attributed to higher advances and *batta* paid during the year.

Defaulters.—New claims amounted to Rs. 1,56,417 an increase of 36%, which with pending claims made a total of Rs. 2,40,611 but these figures were affected by the increase from Rs. 17 to Rs. 25 per head maximum recovery and cannot rightly be compared with previous figures.

Enquiries.—There were 1,272 cases as compared with 1,063 last year, i.e. an increase of almost 20%.

Statistics.—Detailed statistics are shown in Appendices C and D, but changes in the maximum amount to be recovered and the abnormal conditions as regards recruiting do not permit of very close comparison under some of the heads.

VI. CONTROL COMMITTEE

Members.—Messrs M. R. Coghlan, F. J. B. Diaper, C. L. J. Humphreys, and R. Walker, were re-elected *en bloc* at the General Meeting in August 1945. Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Coghlan were also re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Mr. Humphreys, who went on home leave for some months was replaced by Wing Commander Sprott, appointed by the Committee under Regulation 25 (b). During this period Mr. Coghlan acted as Chairman, until he was forced by illness to relinquish the post which was taken by Mr. R. Walker. Mr. Humphreys was reappointed on return from leave in place of Wing Commander Sprott, and was also re-elected Chairman in place of Mr. Walker.

Meetings.—Four meetings were held, namely, on August 13/14th 1945, August 17th 1945, December 4th/5th 1945 and March 25th/26th 1946.

VII. GENERAL MEETINGS

The Eighth Annual General Meeting was held at Coonoor on August 17th 1945 and a General Meeting on March 28th, 1946. The proceedings of both meetings were printed and circulated to all subscribers as usual.

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

Chatrams.—Five Chatrams were opened for the use of labourers *en route* to and returning from estates. With one exception they may be said to have been a success but at Cumbum where no rationing was enforced and an ex-peon was installed as caretaker and encouraged to provide meals, the local hotel keepers combined to induce the coolies not to use the chatram but to get meals at, and accommodation in and around, the hotels instead.

Travelling Facilities.—There was little improvement on bus routes but the reduced rail services have been to some extent restored. Though there is less overcrowding in the III class, on the main routes, there still remains a good deal to be done before pre-war standards are again reached. It is hoped that with the de-control of tyres and perhaps petrol in the near future, bus Companies may be able to run adequate services but till there is real competition again, any special arrangements for coolies are unlikely.

As regards provision of meals, the extension of rationing and stricter enforcement of it, in prospect, has even further complicated the difficulties, not the least of which is likely to be the vested interests mentioned above.

C. L. J. HUMPHREYS,

Chairman

F. J. B. DIAPER

M. R. COGHLAN

H. C. BOYD

Members of the Control Committee

COONOR,
10th July 1946.

APPENDIX 'A'

Analysis of Expenditure from 1st April 1945 to 31st March 1946 and Budget Estimates for 1945-46

HEADINGS							EXPENDITURE 1945-46			ESTIMATE		
							RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Establishment—												
Director	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,000	0	0	9,000	0	0
Superintendents	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,560	0	0	4,560	0	0
Assistant Superintendent	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,282	11	6	2,000	0	0
Bungalow Coolies...	...	...	...	...	...	...	993	8	0	998	0	0
Superintendent's Rent Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	...	480	0	0	480	0	0
Motor Mileage and Travelling Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,547	9	3	4,800	0	0
Control Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,972	8	0	2,500	0	0
Passage Money	...	...	...	...	...	...	600	0	0	600	0	0
Office Staff—												
Clerks	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,053	11	4	10,170	0	0
Clerks' Rent Allowances	...	...	...	...	...	...	825	4	0	789	0	0
Peons	...	...	...	...	...	...	676	8	0	702	0	0
Sweepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	96	0	0	96	0	0
General—												
Postages and Telegrams	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,414	4	3	3,240	0	0
Stationery and Printing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,372	11	1	4,300	0	0
Audit	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,300	0	0	1,300	0	0
Legal Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	8	0	100	0	0
Medical	...	...	...	...	...	...	650	5	10	350	0	0
Purchase of Stock and Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,221	1	4	410	0	0
Bank Charges and Sundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	710	9	1	590	0	0
Buildings—												
Rents and Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,245	8	1	1,490	0	0
Repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	727	5	0	575	0	0
Depreciation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,045	0	0	2,045	0	0
Chatrams	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,433	14	6	3,500	0	0
Agencies—												
Agents' Pay	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,311	0	0	26,076	0	0
Consolidated T.A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,257	7	0	11,220	0	0
Rents	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,103	14	0	2,088	0	0
Peons	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,821	8	0	10,086	0	0
Office Sundries and Extra T.A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,972	4	4	3,663	0	0
Provident Funds—												
European	...	...	...	...	...	...	900	0	0	900	0	0
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,320	8	0	4,164	0	0
Dearness Allowance							18,343	13	10	14,872	0	0
Share of Disincorporation Expenses							641	0	0	...		
Victory Celebrations							832	0	0	...		
Posters and Handbills							594	0	0	...		
Reserve							...			760	0	0
Total							1,29,347	6	5	1,28,424	9	0

APPENDIX 'B'

Summary of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1946

EXPENDITURE		Amount		INCOME		Amount			
		RS	A	P			RS	A	P
To Coimbatore and Palamcottah Divisions ...		1,29,347	6	5	By Subscriptions ...		1,31,450	0	0
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Reserve Account ...		3,472	11	10	„ Interest and Sundries ...		1,370	2	3
Total ...		1,32,820	2	3	Total ...		1,32,820	2	3



APPENDIX 'C'

CSL

New cases investigated by the Labour Department from each District from April 1st, 1945, to March 31st, 1946

DISTRICT—	Anamallais	Central Travancore	Coorg	Kanan Devans	Malabar	Madura	Mundakayam	Mysore	Nelliampathies	Nilgiris	Nilgiri-Wynaad	South Travancore	Wynaad	Total No. of New Cases	Balance pending from last year	Disposal this year	Balance pending on 31-3-1946
Divisions																	
Coimbatore-Mysore ...	739	62	850	34	45	9	3	381	25	364	288	6	190	2,996	1,075	2,715	1,356
Palamcottah-Srivilliputtur ...	401	869	18	927	8	8	6	1	7	70	8	213	...	2,536	1,180	2,414	1,302
Total 1945-46 ...	1,140	931	868	961	53	17	9	382	32	434	296	219	190	5,532	2,255	5,129	2,658
„ 1944-45 ...	1,037	845	912	1,180	47	8	15	341	44	183	243	194	90	5,139	2,084	4,968	2,255

CLASSIFICATION OF NEW CASES

Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	1,272
Recruiting	...	...	...	...	...	1,779
Defaulters	...	...	...	...	...	2,481
Total	...	...	...	...	...	5,532

APPENDIX 'D'

Summary of Statistics 1945-46

Divisions	Defaulters' Debts					Kanganies advanced on behalf of Estates		No. of coolies forwarded to estates by the Dept. paying way expenses	No. of letters despatched
	Outstanding on 31-3-1945	New debts of the year	Total under disposal during year	Recovered or written off during year	Outstanding on 31-3-1946		Amount paid		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	NO.	RS A P	NO.	NO.
Coimbatore-Mysore	46,891 13 5	74,920 14 8	1,21,812 12 1	53,946 4 3	67,866 7 10	472	1,09,092 13 9	13,303	32,768
Palamcottah-Srivilliputtur	37,302 1 8	81,496 3 6	1,18,798 5 2	68,728 3 5	50,070 1 9	658	99,646 1 0	4,820	33,331
Total 1945-46	84,193 15 1	1,56,417 2 2	2,40,611 1 3	1,22,674 7 8	1,17,936 9 7	1130	2,08,738 14 9	18,123	66,099
„ 1944-45	64,020 2 11	1,15,051 4 4	1,79,072 1 3	94,878 2 2	84,193 15 1	1248	1,92,201 12 11	19,203	59,089

CLASSIFICATION OF DEBT DISPOSALS (Col. 5)

Cash Recovery	...	...	...	...	...	RS A P
Returned to Estates or Settled under Labour Rules	...	...	...	...	...	41,512 1 0
Claimants' claims reduced or Traced elsewhere	...	...	...	...	...	24,210 0 0
Written off as untraceable or irrecoverable	...	...	...	...	...	36,324 0 1
	...	...	...	...	...	20,628 6 7
Total as per Col. 5	...	...	...	...	...	1,22,674 7 8



THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

LABOUR

Balance Sheet as at

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES						RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Capital Account—											
As per last Balance Sheet	..	...	..	...	...	55,532	12	0			
Less Depreciation on Buildings for the year	...	...	...	...	...	2,045	0	0			
									53,487	12	0
Reserve Account—											
As per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	43,772	2	6				
Add Amount transferred from excess of Current Assets over Liabilities during the year	...	...	...	...	5,302	0	0				
						49,074	2	6			
Replacement of Buildings Fund—											
As per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	9,473	5	6				
Add Depreciation for the year	...	...	...	...	2,045	0	0				
						11,518	5	6			
Furlough and Passage Fund—											
As per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	2,850	0	0				
Add allotment for the year	...	...	...	...	600	0	0				
						3,450	0	0			
Employees Security Deposits Fund	...	...	...	...	...				64,042	8	0
Estates Advance Deposits at Divisions	...	...	...	...	...				30,733	12	8
									70,439	6	4
Sundry Liabilities—											
Audit Fee	...	...	...	...	...	650	0	0			
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...	...	1,429	10	0			
									2,079	10	0
Funds Representing Excess of Current Assets over Liabilities—											
As per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	...	10,163	13	6			
Less transferred to Invested surplus during the year	...	...	...	...	...	5,302	0	0			
						4,861	13	6			
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	...	...	...	...	...	3,472	11	10			
									8,334	9	4
Total											
									2,29,117	10	4

C. L. J. HUMPHREYS ... Chairman.
 F. J. B. DIAPER
 M. R. COGHLAN
 H. C. BOYD } Members of the Control Committee.

Report of the Auditors to the Subscribers to the United Planters'

We have audited the Balance Sheet of THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN nations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up and exhibits a true and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Department.

MADRAS, 7th June 1946.



SOUTHERN INDIA

DEPARTMENT

31st March 1946

PROPERTY AND ASSETS						RS	A	P	RS	A	P
Land and Buildings—											
LAND—											
As per last Balance Sheet—											
Nagercoil						RS	A	P			
Palamcottah						5,846	7	9			
						729	8	0			
									6,575	15	9
Buildings—											
COONOR—											
As per last Balance Sheet						32,405	2	9			
Less Depreciation for the year						850	0	0			
									31,555	2	9
NAGERCOIL—											
As per last Balance Sheet						5,659	13	0			
Less Depreciation for the year						350	0	0			
									5,309	13	0
PALAMCOTTAH—											
As per last Balance Sheet						10,891	12	6			
Less Depreciation for the year						845	0	0			
									10,046	12	6
											53,487 12 0
Investments held against Reserve Account—											
Replacement of Buildings Fund and Furlough and Passage Fund—											
Imperial Bank of India, Fixed Deposit									15,000	0	0
Rs. 7,800/- 4% 1960-70 Bonds at Book Value									8,542	8	0
„ 32,500/- 3% 1949-52 Loan at Cost									32,500	0	0
„ 8,000/- 3% 1959-61 2nd V. Loan at cost									8,000	0	0
											64,042 8 0
Assets held against Employees' Security Deposit Fund—											
Imperial Bank of India, Fixed Deposit											30,733 12 8
Stationery in Stock											
											2,631 2 0
Book Debts—											
Electricity Deposits									70	0	0
Chatram Rent Deposits									412	0	0
Due by Estates									612	4	0
											1,094 4 0
Advance—											
Towards Printing Order for 1946-47											250 0 0
Interest Accrued											
											367 11 4
Cash and other Balances—											
Cash and Stamps with Superintendents									200	9	0
Cash at Agencies									25,801	6	8
With Imperial Bank of India on Current Account									50,508	8	8
											76,510 8 4
Total											2,29,117 10 4

R. UNWIN,
Director.

Association of Southern India, Labour Department

INDIA, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, as at 31st March 1946 and have obtained all the information and explanation correct view of the state of the Department's affairs according to the best of our information and the

FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants, Registered Accountants, } Auditors.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proceedings of the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Labour Department of the U.P.A.S.I. held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on Friday the 16th August 1946 commencing at 10 a.m.

The following were present :—

MESSRS. C. L. J. HUMPHREYS (Chairman); C. J. MADDEN, C. R. SIMPSON (Control Committee Members), and R. UNWIN (Director).
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., per Mr. A. G. MacGregor.
ANOR ESTATES LTD., per Mr. H. Browne.
BOMBAY BURMAH PLANTATIONS LTD.; BOMBAY BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., per Mr. G. R. Simpson.
FRINGFORD ESTATES, LTD.; HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD.; KALPETTA ESTATES LTD., per Mr. V. O. Abraham.
HONNAMETTI ESTATE, per Mr. R. C. Morris.
KAIRBETTA ESTATE, per Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.
KODANERI & LAKSHMI VILAS ESTATES, per Mr. N. B. Athrey.
KURUMBARAHALLI ESTATE, MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES LTD., per Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., per Mr. R. W. M. Hay.
MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD., per Mr. W. F. Inman.
NELLAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., per Lt.-Col. G. Q. Archard.
NONSUCH TEA ESTATES LTD., per Mr. C. H. S. London.
PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD.; PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD.; PULLANGODE RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD.; STAGBROOK RUBBER & TEA ESTATES LTD.; TRAVANCORE RUBBER & TEA CO., LTD.; TWYFORD & ASHLEY ESTATES LTD.; VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., per Mr. B. H. Whitehorn, M.B.E.
SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., per Mr. C. J. Madden.
TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., per Mr. K. W. H. Adlam.

VISITORS

Mr. E. J. C. Hill, Mr. D. M. McIntyre.

Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys, Chairman of the Control Committee, presided.

NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING

The Chairman.—I will ask the Director to read the notice calling this meeting.
The notice was read by the Director.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman.—The next item is to confirm the proceedings of the General Meeting held on March 28th 1946. These were printed and circulated to all subscribers. May I have your permission to sign them?
The proceedings were confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman, then delivered the following address :—

Gentlemen, the Control Committee's report, which has been circulated to all subscribers, again records further expansion during the year 1945-46. The total acreage subscribing had risen by the end of the year to 1,82,955 acres and a further 15,717 acres have come in since the current year began. The subordinate and clerical staff has naturally had to be increased and, later in the proceedings today, I shall refer to measures which your Committee propose to take to relieve the overhead staff in Coimbatore Division, which as I mentioned in my budget speech in March last, cannot cope with the extra work without some further assistance. Four new agencies were opened last year under the expansion scheme and two more have recently been opened or arranged for. Another two or three will be necessary to cope with the work from the 15,717 acres of new subscribers.

With one or two exceptions, which must be expected in a staff of over 50 Agents drawn from all classes, all over South India, we have reason to be pleased with the work of our outdoor staff. There is nothing like constant inspection by our officers to keep up the standard of Agents' work and this duty takes up a large proportion of the time of the Superintendents, as well as of the Director. Their touring has not been easy or pleasant. Your Committee has now sanctioned the purchase of a utility van for the Director's use. This should greatly assist him in his touring and it will also, I hope, enable him to visit planting districts occasionally and so keep more in touch with subscribers, which has not unfortunately been possible during the war years.

The Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Moses who was appointed under the expansion scheme last year, had to take up his father's post at Nagercoil, which we regard as a good training ground for eventual promotion to a Superintendent's post. In his place at Coonoor we were fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. R. P. Swamy, an ex-Commissioned Officer of the Indian Army who has made a very promising start. Before passing on to other matters, I should like to place on record the Committee's appreciation of the work done by the senior staff. It has been an extremely busy and difficult year for them all and great credit is due to them for the painstaking and efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I regret to say that we are still unable to give as much assistance, as we should like, to labourers going from their villages to the estates. A few additional buses have been put on some routes and the partial restoration of train services has been of some assistance, but the disabilities under which we still suffer are common to all and not peculiar to the planting industry. Another chatram has been opened at Rajapalayam and this with the other four previously opened, is proving a success except for the one at Cumbum which has been temporarily closed until a new bus stand is selected and a more suitable building near it can be obtained. Efforts to obtain a building at Pollachi now appear likely to succeed.

As you know already the problem of competition with Government and the Army, for labour, is a thing of the past and we are requested to find jobs for demobilised men. This is not at all easy and very few have



been recruited as labourers as it is a job which does not appeal to the men after their army life. However reports from most planting districts, except where the food shortage is severe, speak of improved supply of labour and I hope the serious shortage of the past few years is over.

An item in the report which causes your Committee grave concern is the increase of 36% in the value of new-claims against defaulters. You will remember that as a temporary measure, the maximum recovery through the Department was increased last year from Rs. 17 to Rs. 25 per head in the case of a labourer. This maximum was based on a pronote debt of Rs. 15 and a further Rs. 10 to cover other dues but in actual practice a claim for any debt not exceeding Rs. 25 has been accepted by the Department. Your Committee has given this matter very careful consideration but we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that a reduction in the limit is not at present practicable. I would however reiterate that our ultimate aim is the complete abolition of debt recovery but I am afraid this will not be possible until recruiting conditions become easier.

Problems arising from Labour legislation are dealt with by the U.P.A.S.I. but subscribers may rest assured that matters of particular concern to the Department will not be neglected. I am pleased to say that the Executive Committee have accepted our suggestion that the Chairman of the Department should be, ex-officio, a member of the Labour Advisory Committee and that the Director should attend meetings and receive copies of all correspondence. Whatever future labour legislation may have in store for us, I believe the Labour Department can, and will, continue to play a useful part in the recruitment of labour.

The three other members of the Committee elected with me at the General Meeting last year have now gone on a well-deserved holiday to the U.K. Mr. Coghlan and Mr. Diaper have served on the Committee ever since the Department was reorganised and their ready advice and guidance has played a very large part in bringing the Department to its present level of efficiency. Mr. Walker's previous contacts with the army have been extremely useful to the Committee when carrying on negotiations with the latter in connection with our labour shortage and demobilisation. I am sure you will join with me in wishing them the happiest of leaves. To all these gentlemen and to Wing Commander Sprott who took my place on the Committee during my absence on leave for 5 months, I should like to say how much I appreciate the assistance and advice they have given me during my year of office. Also to my present colleagues on the Committee and to Mr. Unwin whose ever-ready co-operation has made my task an easy one.

Gentlemen, I now place my resignation and that of my colleagues in your hands. (*Applause.*)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The Chairman.—We have to consider the Report of the Control Committee, the Balance Sheet, the Revenue and Expenditure Account and the Auditors' report for the year 1945-46. These have all been circulated to you and I will ask the Director to read the Auditors' report:

The Director.—The Auditors' Report reads thus:

'We have audited the Balance Sheet of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Labour Department, as at 31st March 1946, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up and exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Department's affairs according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shewn by the books of the Department.'

(Signed) FRASER & ROSS,
Auditors.

The Chairman.—If there are any questions I will do my best to answer them.

There being no questions, I move from the Chair:—

'That the Report of the Control Committee, the Balance Sheet and the Revenue and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31-3-1946 be adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS

The Chairman.—The next business is the election of auditors. I propose from the Chair:—

'That Messrs. Fraser & Ross be re-elected Auditors for the coming year on a remuneration of Rs. 1,300.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

SUB-DIVISION OF COIMBATORE DIVISION BY FORMING A MYSORE-MANGALORE DIVISION WITH A SEPARATE SUPERINTENDENT

The Chairman.—We now pass on to item No. 6. To discuss the desirability of sub-dividing the present Coimbatore Division, the appointment of a separate Superintendent to be in charge of the old Mysore-Mangalore Division, and raising the subscription on Coffee.

It became apparent last year, with the influx of new subscribers, that something would have to be done shortly to relieve the Coimbatore Superintendent of part of his work. He then had 28 agencies, now increased to 30, covering a very wide area which prior to the reorganisation of the Department was divided between three Superintendents and one Assistant Superintendent. Your Committee considers therefore that the appointment of an extra Superintendent for the Coimbatore Division is essential if the work in this Division is not to suffer.

You will remember that it was tentatively suggested at the Budget meeting in March that it might be advisable to reopen the old Mysore-Mangalore Division under a separate Superintendent in Mysore City and that it would mean asking Coffee Subscribers, who would benefit most from this change, to pay a subscription of Re 1 per acre.

Since then the views of the majority of Coffee Subscribers have been obtained and from the replies received we are led to believe they are in favour of the proposal.

Your Committee propose therefore to reopen the old Mysore/Mangalore Division with a separate Superintendent and office in Mysore City. He will have under his charge 15 agencies in Mysore and South Kanara, which will leave a similar number in the former Coimbatore Division (plus 2 agencies in Malabar) for the new Superintendent. The latter's office will be in Coonoor where he will have the benefit of the Director's advice and assistance.

Under the new arrangements we should then have 3 divisions of more or less equal size, namely, Palamcottah, Coimbatore and Mysore/Mangalore plus a Chief Agency in Nagercoil and your Committee are convinced that this will lead to increased efficiency in the working of the Department.

The proposal will mean asking Coffee subscribers to pay a subscription next year of 13 annas an acre or an increase of 2 annas 10 pies and not a subscription of Re. 1 as originally anticipated. I have been particularly authorized by the Committee, the majority of whom are Tea representatives, to state that the acceptance of this rate of subscription will finally dispose of the contention, frequently put forward by some Tea subscribers, that Coffee does not pay its full share towards the cost of running the Department.

The Chairman.—I trust, gentlemen, that this proposal of the Control Committee will meet with your approval. I now welcome comments which subscribers would like to make.

Mr. R. C. Morris.—Will the headquarters of the Mysore/Mangalore Division be in Mysore or in Coonoor?

The Chairman.—At Mysore, Sir.

Mr. H. Browne.—Is it proposed to put the present man in South Kanara in charge of the Mysore/Mangalore Division and ask him to look after the South Kanara division also?

The Chairman.—It is proposed to transfer the present Coimbatore Superintendent to Mysore. The new Assistant Superintendent in Coonoor will take charge of the Coimbatore Division and will remain in Coonoor, with the Director.

Gentlemen, if you have no further comments to make I will take it that you are in favour of the proposal. We shall ask for increased subscriptions with effect from 1st April, 1947, and will put up budget estimates before subscribers at the budget meeting in March 1947.

ELECTION OF CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Chairman.—The next item is to elect a Control Committee for the year 1946-47. Owing to members having gone on leave, three of those whom you elected last year have had to be replaced during the year by appointments, made under the authority of Regulation 25 (b), of Messrs. H. C. Boyd, C. J. Madden and G. R. Simpson in place of Messrs. R. Walker, M. R. Coghlan and F. J. B. Diaper respectively. Will someone kindly propose names of gentlemen it is desired to elect as members of the Committee for the coming year?

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—I propose that the same Committee continue for the next year.

Mr. D. M. McIntyre.—I should like to second that.

Members agreeing to the proposal, the Committee was unanimously re-elected *en-bloc*. The members of the new Committee will therefore be:—

Messrs. C. L. J. Humphreys, H. C. Boyd, C. J. Madden and G. R. Simpson.

The Chairman.—Thank you, gentlemen. (*Applause.*)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman.—The last item is 'Any Other Business'. Would any member like to raise any subject under this heading?

Mr. H. Browne.—I should like to raise a point regarding the present Mangalore Division. The labour in South Kanara is over-recruited and there is no scope for additional labour from there. I personally propose that the Division should function more as a recruiting agency. Would it not be possible for the Department to appoint some recruiters to tap new districts? We are particularly short of labour in Mysore and, as it is now, there is no particular benefit to us from paying an increased subscription. I know of certain estates in Mysore which have appointed their own recruiters and these estates were actually turning labour away. Appointing private recruiters is rather expensive. The estates are paying Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per month. Also I think a lot of districts have not been tapped and I would particularly mention Kadur District.

The Director.—Kadur District could be covered by a new Agent but Mr. Browne has raised the old question of direct recruiting. The principle that the Department should not recruit directly is in line with U.P.A.S.I. policy which, as stated in a booklet entitled, I think, 'U.P.A.S.I. Standards', plumps for the kangany system, and went so far as to say that introduction of direct recruiting would be a disaster for both employer and employees. Those who listened to the President's speech at the U.P.A.S.I. General Meeting yesterday will have noticed that he expressed strong views about the abolition of the kangany system and, until the Association's policy on this matter is entirely changed, direct recruiting is out of the question for this Department.

There are also many practical difficulties. If A, B and C all want 50 labourers and my agents collect this number, to whom am I to send them? A may have asked first but the labourers may insist on going to B or C, or even to D, who has not asked for any! They have very strong views as to where they will go. For instance, even if those who prefer the High Range could be persuaded to go to the Anamallais or Nilgiris or vice versa, they would often refuse to go where wanted, inside that district. In a recent issue of the *Planters' Chronicle* I referred to a case where one estate was turning away labour by the score while another, belonging to the same owners in the same district, was in need of 200 labourers. There are variations in conditions between estates which no doubt account for such preferences, and these are well known, so that the case is quite different from recruiting new labour to go to an unknown estate in Assam and, honestly, I do not see any way out.

Mr. H. Browne.—May I refer to my experience some years ago, when I was short of labour? I wrote to the Superintendent of the Labour Department and he appointed a recruiter for my estate. He recruited the required number and sent them on to me with a Labour Department peon. That is the kind of service for which we are all prepared to pay. The Department should try and recruit maistries who would get labour for estates who write and ask the Department to supply it.

The Director.—That is a matter of finding new connections ! I am sorry I cannot give exact figures of the number of these required in Coimbatore Division at the present moment, but, while I was in Palamcottah for the past 5 weeks, a subscriber wrote asking for a new maistry with a gang of 25 to 50. I looked up the Palamcottah lists and, speaking from memory there had been, since 1st January 1946, 9 applications from the Anamallais, 8 from Travancore, and 3 from the Nilgiris for maistries with 25 to 200 labourers each. Not one new man had been found during that period ! There are in fact no reliable men out of employment now.

If you were to ask us to find men to recruit labour, on a commission basis, and send it to you, but who would not come to the estate themselves, we might find people to do it, but they would be professional recruiters. I do not know what is your experience of such people in Mysore but my own opinion is that they would not prove a success. They would send up labour of an inferior or unsuitable type which would bolt from estate to estate and give no end of trouble.

The Chairman.—If subscribers in Mysore think labour can be recruited in any particular district there, we would certainly appoint an agent in Kadur, or anywhere else.

The Director.—I wrote some time ago to the leading subscriber of a large group of estates in Mysore enquiring his views as to where, if at all, the subscribers in his district would like new agents to be placed, but I did not get any reply.

The Chairman.—Mr. Farmer, in his presidential speech yesterday, referred to professional recruiters and expressed himself against them. I personally think we should be making a mistake in creating a class of professional recruiters at present.

Has any other member any other question to raise ?

Lt.-Col. G. A. R. Spain.—Would you be pleased to ask Mr. Morris to give us some idea of the position as regards labour legislation up in Delhi and as to what is happening there ?

The Chairman.—That is really a matter for the U.P.A.S.I. and will probably be discussed at the General Meeting tomorrow.

Mr. N. B. Athrey.—I propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair. (Applause.)

The Chairman.—There being no other business I declare the meeting closed.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

List of Subscribers and Subscribing Estates as at 1st November 1946

ANAMALLAIS

AMALGAMATED TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Kadalaparai, Malakiparai, Pannimade.
ANAMALLAY TEA ESTATES, LTD., Kallyar, Sholayar.
ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., Pachamallai, Selaliparai, Valparai, Velonie, Uralikal.
BOMBAY BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION LTD., Anaimudi, Gajam Mudi, Mukkottu Mudi, Thai Mudi, Thoni Mudi, Singampatti Group.
BOMBAY BURMAH PLANTATIONS, LTD., Mount Stuart, Tholanar.
ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., Candura, Iyerpadi, Lower Paralai, Lower Sheikalmudi, Murugalli, Sheikalmudi, Upper Paralai.
ESTATES & AGENCY CO., LTD., High Forest.
PERIA KARAMALAI TEA AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Akkamalai, Karamalai, Oosimalai.
SAVAMALAI ESTATES, LTD., Manamboli.
STANMORE (ANAMALLAY) ESTATES, LTD., Injipara, Monica, Nullacathu, Sirikundra, Stanmore.
VELLAMALAI TEA CO., LTD., Vellamalai.
WATERFALL ESTATES, LTD.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE

SEMNI VALLEY.
HAILEYBURIA TEA ESTATES, LTD., Haileyburia.
HIGHLAND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Carady Goody, Pasuparai.
KARIMTHARUVI TEA ESTATES, LTD., Karimtharuvi.
KOTTAGUDI PLANTATIONS, LTD., Kollukumalai.
KRISHNA IYER, N., Neelgri and Murukady Tea Estates, Amaravathy.
MALABAR AGRICULTURAL CO., LTD., Pookulam, Karimkulam, Sulthania, Allandy.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Arneikudy, Chenkara, Dymock, Moongalaar, Pattumallay, Wallardie.
MANALUR RUBBER CO., LTD., Manalur Kongapatti, Moodapalli.
MIDLAND RUBBER AND PRODUCE CO., LTD., Arnakal.
MLAMALLAY TEA ESTATES, LTD., Keerikara, Mlamallay.
PATRAKOLA TEA CO., LTD., Kottamallai.
PEERMADE TEA CO., LTD., Cheenthalaar, Central, Lone Tree, Pirmed.
PULLIKANAM TEA ESTATES, LTD., Pullikanam.
ROISSIER, R. P., Fairfield.
SOUTHERN INDIA TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Glenmary, Kuduakarnam, Ladrum, Woodlands, Ranikoil.
STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES, LTD., Maimalai, Stagbrook.
TRAVANCORE TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Bonami, Granby, Koliakanam, Mount, Munjamallay, Nellikai, Pambanaar, Pasumallay, Savarimallay, Thengakal, Thungamallay.
TROPICAL PLANTATIONS, LTD., Connemara, Periyar.
TWYFORD AND ASHLEY ESTATES, LTD., Twyford, Ashley.
VAGHAMON (TRAVANCORE) TEA CO., LTD., Vaghamon.

ABDUL MAJID KHAN, Malleswar.
ABDUL RAHAMAN KHAN, Abial Estate.
AIRD, J., Raigode and Beetikadu.
APPIAH, K. P., Oddarmotte.
BALL, MAJOR E. P., Whaddon.
BALL, MRS., M. D., Perambo Colly.
BASAPPA, D., Pannia.
CHICANNA, D., Nagaroor.
COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES, LTD., Sampaje.
CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD., Balmany, Bhunjigherry, Buthanhudloo Canon Cadoo, Chennankottay, Cottabetta, Doddabetta, Ghatted Hulla, Hanchibetta, Kumbur, Margolly, Mocha, Mutta Cadoo, Mutta Perambo, Jumboor, Kibberi, Nullagottay, Nullore, Palamad, Palakery, Pollibetta, Purchi Cadoo, Suntikoppa, Woshully.
COORG CINCHONA ESTATES, Anandapur.
COORG ESTATES, LTD., Cottacadoo and Jeynecadu.
COORG TEA CO., LTD., Glen Lorna.
CRAIG, LT.-COL. H. T., Faith, Wattakadoo.
DASAPPA, D. V., Balagunda, Masgode and Dudgul.
FENNEL, E. A., Wooligooly.
GOVINDAPPA, D., Madapur 'A'.
HOROR ESTATES, LTD., Horoor.
HUMPHREYS, MRS. C. L. J., Kurumbarahalli.
KARRIE KOLLIE ESTATES CO., LTD., Karrie Kollie.
KOORGHULLY COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Koorghully.
LEELA, MRS. V. S., Kedukal.
LUARD, MRS. M. C., Bisonfield.
MACPHERSON, LT.-COL. O. B. E., AND OTHERS, Balla Cadoo.
MANGLES BROS., COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Coovercolly Group, Santagherry.
MERCARA RUBBER, LTD., Kedamakal.
MITCHELL, MISS. D. V., Attur.
NANJAPPA, P. A., Nakoor, Bledfa.
NARAYANA SETTY, D., Hilly Side, Masagode.
NILAMBUR RUBBER CO., LTD., Glencoorg.
SAKAMMA, SRI D. AND SRI. D. SIDDANNA BROTHERS COFFEE ESTATES, Cumboor, Kusubur, Madapur, Malambi, Masgod.
TIPPING, MRS. K., Alitopoo.
THIRUMALACHARI, H., B.A., B.L., Iggodlu, Gundibylu.
WHITE, G. P., Netley and Yemmegoondi Estates.
YUSUF ALIKHAN, Alicutty, Balayatrie, Boikere, Kanangad.

KANAN DEVANS

ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., Devikulam, Periakanal, Pullivasal.
KANAN DEVAN HILLS PRODUCE CO., LTD., Arivikad, Chittavurrai, Chockanad, Chundavurrai, Grahamsland, Guderaie, Gundumallay, Kadalaar, Kalaar, Kanniamalay, Kundaly, Rajamallay, Sevenmallay, Sholamallay, Silent Valley, Letchmi, Lower Vaguvurrai, Madupatty, Munnar, Nadiar, Nettigudi, Nullatanni, Nyamakad, Parvithi, Periaavurrai, Pettimudi, Sothuparai, Thenmallay, Upper Vaguvurrai, Yellapatti.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Lockhart, Lower Surianalle, Panniar, Upper Surianalle.
TALAYAR TEA CO., LTD., Chathamannaar, Craig Lamont, Pambumallai, Talliar.

MUNDAKAYAM

MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Boyce, Cheruvalley, Mundakayam, Peruvanthanam.
STAGBROOK RUBBER AND TEA ESTATES, LTD., Eldorado, Kokayar.
TRAVANCORE RUBBER AND TEA CO., LTD., Chennapara, Kuppakayam, Valley End.
VELLANI TEA ESTATES, LTD., Vellani.

MYSORE

ANQOR ESTATES, LTD., Mylemoney, Busgode, Sampangikhan.
BICCODE ESTATE, LTD., Biccode.
BOWER, H. S., Handi.
COWCOODY ESTATES, LTD., Cowcoody and Cullaly.
DALTON, T. L., AND C. S. IRON, Huntsey and Kitherhalli.
DENNIS, S. H., Ooghully.
GODFREY, C. H., Harlay, Woger, Yellikodige.
HILL, A. L., Ubban.
HOLALU ESTATE, LTD., Holalu.
HUNT, E. P., Hoolihundloo.
LAKE, C AND R. C., Udevar.
LINGAPUR ESTATE, LTD., Lingapur.
MOCKETT, BROOKE (EXORS OF) Wartyhully, Utollalu, Hosergooda, Ossoor, Sulgodu, Soondhully and Luckoonda.
MORGAN, MRS. S. F. AND OTHERS, Honey Vale.
MORGAN COFFEE CO., LTD., Kurkenmatty Group, Merthikhan.



MORRIS, A. E. C., Attikan.
 MORRIS, RANDOLPH C., Honnametti.
 MORRIS, G. W. G., Gorrayhatti.
 MORRIS, CAPT. J. G. L., Bedaguli.
 OLIVER, G. R., Hospet, Kesinurthy.
 OLIVER, L. C. (Executors of), Kartikeri.
 PORTER, HALL & Co., Jignykhan, Siddakhan.
 PORTER, HALL, DENNE & Co., Beetykhan.
 TEA ESTATES INDIA, LTD., Kadamane.
 WALMSLEY, MRS. M. O., Goorghully, Hosshully, Salawara.
 VOLKART BROTHERS, Karradibetta.

NELLIAMPATHIES

AMALGAMATED COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Anaimaad, Palagapandy, Seetagundy.
 CHANDRAMALAI ESTATES, LTD., Chandramalai.
 NELLIAMPATHY TEA & PRODUCE CO., LTD., Lily, Manalaroo, Pothupara, Karadymullah, West Pullala.

NILGIRIS

ATHREY, N. B., Kodaneri & Lakshmi Vilas Estates.
 BETHIA GOWER, B. K., Rocky Glen.
 BLUE MOUNTAIN ESTATES, LTD., Glendale, Kullakamby, Adderley & Brooklands.
 BOMBAY BURMAH PLANTATIONS LTD :—Dunsandle, Lovedale.
 CAMERON, MRS. E. G. & OTHERS, Ben Gorm.
 EMERALD VALLEY ESTATE, LTD., Emerald Valley.
 FENELL, E. C., Havukal.
 GERRARD, E. F. H., Garswood.
 KADA GOWDER, M. S., Armagal & Moothorai.
 LINGA GOWDER, B. K., Manjoor.
 NANDIE GOWDER, B. K., Tiny Tea Estate.
 NEELAMALAI TEA & COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., Bhawani, Katary, Moutere, Sutton.
 NILGIRI NEERUGUNDI ESTATES CO., LTD., Arcood, Boothecary, Coonoor Ali & Rookery.
 NONSUCH TEA ESTATES, LTD., Nonsuch.
 PARKSIDE (NEILGHERRY HILLS) ESTATE, CO., LTD.
 POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., Terramia.
 SPAIN, LT.-COL. G. A. R., Kairbetta, Kelso, Rajbai, Kottabetta.
 STISTED, J. L. H., Burnside, Lucky Valley.
 KALPETTA ESTATES LTD., Sholur Estate.
 THIASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., Korakundah, Thiashola.
 UNITED NILGIRI TEA ESTATES CO., LTD., Allada Valley, Chamraj, Devabetta Koderi Valley, Rocklands.

NILGIRI-WYNAAAD

ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, LTD., Attikunna, Caroline, Richmond.
 DAVERASHOLA TEA CO., LTD., Daverashola, Rockwood.
 ESTATES & AGENCY CO., LTD., Prospect & Scaforth Groups.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS LTD., Choladi, Mayfield, Wentworth.
 TEA ESTATES INDIA, LTD., Rousdonmullay, Terrace.
 WAPSHARE, E. R., Burnside, Compton, Outcherlony Tea Estate.

SOUTH TRAVANCORE

HAJAH MOIDEEN ROWTHER, M. K., Hereford.
 LESLIE, A. W., Shendurni.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Ambanaad, Arundale, Florence, Isfield, Kallely, Kodamalay, Koney, Koravanthavalam, Kumbazha, Lahai, Nagamallay, Nedumpara, Perumun, Venture.
 MIDLAND RUBBER & PRODUCE COMPANY, LTD., Balamore, Mahendragiri, Mukampala, Perinaad, Sittar Estates.
 NINAN & SONS., A. P., Elderslie.
 POONMUDI TEA & RUBBER CO., LTD., Bon Accord, Braemore, Poonmudi.
 SIMPSON, C. H., Blackrock.

WEST COAST

COCHIN MALABAR ESTATES, LTD., Eddivanna, Kinalur, Kuttiadi, Pudukad.
 MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Kaliyar, Mooply.
 PULLANGODE RUBBER & PRODUCE CO., LTD., Pullangode.
 ARTHALA ESTATES, LTD., Arthala.
 THIRUMBADI RUBBER CO., LTD., Nileschwaram, Thirumbad

WYNAAD

CHEMBRA PEAK ESTATES, LTD., Chembra, Elstone, Erramaculla, Perindotty, Poothacolie, Wariyat.
ENGLISH & SCOTTISH JOINT CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LTD., Auda Tode, Cherakara, Jessie, Nellimunda,
Ripon, Talapoya, Tatamala, Thavenjal.
FRINGFORD ESTATES LTD., Fringford & Forestflower, Mackimalai.
KERALA PLANTATIONS, LTD., High Peak Estate.
KURCHERMALA PLANTATIONS, LTD., Kurchermala.
MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LTD., Achoor, Arrapetta, Chundale, Kardoora, Perrengoda, Pootumula, Sentinel
Rock, Touramulla.
THE KALPETTA ESTATES, LTD., Chulika & Adelaide.

SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

PATRONS

Bengorm Estate Brock, Lt.-Col. C. H., O.B.E., V.D.	Kanan Devan Planters' Association Karamalai Estate Kerala Calicut Estates, Ltd.	Sheikalmudi Estate Sholayar Estate Simcock, E. W. Stanmore (Anamally) Estates Co., Ltd.
Cochin Malabar Estates, Ltd. Congreve, C. R. T., C.B.E. Consolidated Coffee Estates, (1943) Ltd. Crawford, Lt.-Col., W. L., C.B.E., Crowther, R. F. H. Coorg Planters' Association	Malayalam Plantations Ltd. Mangles Brothers Mooply Estate Murphy, J. J. Mysore Planters' Association	Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd. Travancore Tea Estates Co., Ltd.
Darragh, Smail & Co., Ltd.	Naduar Estates, Ltd. Nenmeny & Redlynch Estates Nonsuch Tea Estates Ltd. Nilgiri Planters' Association	Vincent, J. R. Volkart Bros.
English & Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.	Peirce, Leslie & Co., Ltd. Poonmudi Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd. Puthuthotam Estates	Walmesley, H. J. Wynaad Planters' Association
		Yendayar Estate

LIFE MEMBERS

Allan & Co., T. H. Anupura Coffee Works Co., Ltd. Arabidacool Estate Aspinwall & Co., Ltd. Arnakal Estate Alexander, J. H. Barber, Sir Fairless Bayly, S. Brooke, G. A. Bull, Ivor, O.B.E. Burmah Shell Oil Storage & Distributing Co. of India, Ltd. Cameron, E. G. Cameron, H. S. Central Travancore Planters' Association Central Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd. Ceylon Land & Produce Co., Ltd. Chembra Peak Estates, Ltd. Clarke, E. Sydenham Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd. Courpalais, C. R. H. Craig, W. G. Crawford, C. S. Cuthell, H. Dandison, A. S. Eldorado Group Elkington, D. Farley, G. P. Foster, R. G. Francis, E. H. Freud, G. V. R. Fulcher, G. W. Gerry, H. Gibson, G. L. H. Godfrey, C. H. Gwynne, J. A.	Hall, C. J. Hall, Edward Halliley, E. H. Harley, R. Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd. Hill, A. L. Homewood, G. S. Honnametti Estate House, E. N. Humphreys, C. L. J. Ireland Jones, J. H. Iyerpadi Estate James Finlay & Co., Ltd. James, Sir Frederick, O.B.E. Jeffrey, J. H. Jodrell, R. N. W. Jumboor Estate Kalliyar Estate Kirwan, N. G. B. Koechlin, E. L. Korangumudi Estate Langley, W. K. M., C.B.E. Levett, R. W. Mackay, M. W. Mackenzie, C. A. McBride, J. McLean, C. L. Mundakayam Valley Rubber Co., Ltd. Muskal Bora Estate Mitchell, L. E. Newcome, L. Nicoll, K. E. Patmore, F. C. Peermade Tea Co., Ltd.	Pinches, H. L. Pitcairn, J. E. Pittock, C. K. Portland Estate Presidency Manure Works, Ltd. Pryde, J. R. N., C.B.E. Rani Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd. Robinson, J. H. Sampson, J. E. Saldhana & Sons, A. J. Santaveri Estate Siddhakaan Estate Smail, J. F. Southern India Tea Estates Co., Ltd. Sutton Group Sprott, J. H. W/Comdr. Tea Estates India, Ltd. Thirumbadi Rubber Co., Ltd. Travers Drapes, V. L. Twyford & Ashley Estates, Ltd. United Nilgiri Tea Estates Co., Ltd. Vernede, C. R. B. Wallace, J. S. B. Wartyhully Estates Watson, H. Wilkie, J. M. Wilkie, J. S. Williams, J. L. H. Windle, E. G. Woodlands & Olands Estates Woodman, B. Wolde, B. Young, E. H.
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SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

The Twenty-third Annual General Meeting of the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund held at 'Glenview', Coonoor, on 17th August, 1946.

The following were present :—

MESSRS. F. G. WALLACE (*President*) ; R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A., H. C. BOYD, H. GERRY (*Committee Members*) ; L. E. MITCHELL (*Secretary*).

PATRONS

CONSOLIDATED COFFEE ESTATES (1943) LTD., *per* Mr. A. L. Hill.

MANGLES BROS. COORG COFFEE ESTATES, LTD., *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS ON BEHALF OF MEMBERS

ANAMALLAI P.A., *per* Mr. G. R. Simpson.

CENTRAL TRAVANCORE P. A., *per* C. J. Madden.

COORG P.A., *per* Mr. C. L. J. Humphreys.

KANAN DEVAN P.A., *per* Mr. D. M. McIntyre.

NILGIRI P.A., *per* E. J. C. Hill.

LIFE MEMBERS

MR. H. GERRY.

MR. R. C. MORRIS, M.L.A.

TEA ESTATES INDIA LTD., *per* Mr. H. Gerry.

MEMBERS

ANGLO-AMERICAN DIRECT TEA TRADING CO., LTD., *per* Mr. A. G. MacGregor.

BOMBAY-BURMAH TRADING CORPORATION, LTD., *per* Mr. G. R. Simpson.

The President.—I will ask the Secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF LAST MEETING

The President.—The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 16th August 1945 were published in the U.P.A.S.I. Year Book, 1945. Have I your permission to take these as a correct record?

Permission was granted and the Minutes were signed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The President.—I will now ask the Secretary to read the Secretary's Report for the year ending 31st March 1946.

The Secretary then read the following Report :—

Membership.—The number of planters who subscribed to the Fund during the year was 130 which is the same as in the previous year. The number of estate members who subscribed was 107 as against 96 in the previous year. Donations received from District Associations, Companies, etc. totalled Rs. 1,879-14-3.

Income.—The total income of the Fund from all sources amounted to Rs. 12,340-7-0. Of this, the income from subscriptions and donations was Rs. 6,509-14-3, the interest realised from investments Rs. 5,775-7-9 and the profit on U.P.A.S.I. Buying Agency account transferred to the S.I.P.B. Fund Rs. 55-1-0.

Expenditure.—Assistance was granted in 16 cases during the year as against 20 in the previous year. At the end of the year there was an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 744-7-3 which was transferred to the Accumulated Fund.

Investments.—Investments at the end of the year stand in the Balance Sheet at Rs. 1,79,698-15-0.

Mistley Property.—The balance at credit of the Mistley buildings Repairs Endowment Fund was 10,669-2-9."

The President.—If no members have any questions to ask, I propose the Secretary's Report for the year 1945-46 be adopted.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS 1945-46

The President.—The Income and Expenditure account for the year was published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated 15th August 1946, and the Secretary has just read out the main items of the Balance Sheet. I propose :—

'That the accounts for the year 1945-46 as audited be adopted.'

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES

The President.—Notice of amendments to the Rules of the S.I.P.B. Fund was given to all members on 17th May 1946 in accordance with the provisions of the Societies' Registration Act of 1860. Have I the approval of this meeting to pass the amendments?

The amendments to the Rules were approved unanimously.

There being no other business, the President declared the meeting closed.



CSL

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA
SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 1946.

LIABILITIES	RS	A	P	RS	A	P	ASSETS	RS	A	P	RS	A	P
<i>Accumulated Funds—</i>							<i>Buildings—</i>						
Balance as per last Balance Sheet ..	1,93,016	6	9				Mistley Buildings at Kotagiri ..				10,000	0	0
Add Excess of income over expenditure for the year	744	7	3				<i>Investments—</i>						
				1,93,760	14	0	<i>General—</i>						
							Rs. 16,500 3½% Loan ..	14,643	12	0			
							" 5,200 3% 1951-54 Loan ..	5,160	0	0			
							" 3,000 4½% 1955-60 Loan ..	3,159	0	0			
							" 1,15,500 3% 1963-65 Loan ..	1,13,867	9	0			
							" 5,000 4% 1960-70 Loan ..	5,368	8	0			
							" 33,000 3% 1946 Defence Loan ..	33,000	0	0			
							" 4,500 3% 1949-52 Defence Loan	4,500	0	0			
								1,79,698	15	0			
<i>Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund—</i>							Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund						
Balance as per last Balance Sheet ..	10,421	12	0				Rs. 10,000 3½% Loan	10,000	0	0			
Add interest for the year	350	0	0								1,89,698	15	0
Less withdrawn during the year ..	102	9	3				<i>Sundry Debtors—</i>						
				10,669	2	9	.. .. .					
							<i>Interest Accrued on Investments—</i>						
<i>Sundry Creditors</i>				30	0	0	<i>General</i>	1,608	12	6			
							Mistley Building Repairs Endowment Fund	73	8	0			
											1,682	4	6
							<i>Cash and other Balances—</i>						
							<i>With Imperial Bank of India—</i>						
							General	2,277	5	9			
							Mistley Building Repair						
							Endowment Fund ..	595	10	9			
							Cash on hand	2,873	0	6			
								72	9	0			
											2,945	9	6
Total ..				2,04,460	0	9	Total ..				2,04,460	0	9

MADRAS,
26th July, 1946

Examined and found correct.
FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants, Registered Accountants

} Auditors.



SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March, 1946.

[illegible]



MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND

Registered under the Societies' Registration Act XXI of 1860

1. The name of the Association is the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund hereinafter referred to as 'The Fund'.
2. The objects for which the Association has been started are :
 - (a) To give temporary assistance to members or to dependents of members who are in distress as the result of any good and sufficient cause.
 - (b) To give temporary assistance in special cases to European planters of Southern India who are no members and to their dependents.
 - (c) Generally to make such use of the funds of the Association as will best effect the carrying out of the aforesaid objects or any of them, but in no case it is intended to provide an annual income.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

1. Subject to Rule 4 the following shall be eligible for membership :—
 - (a) Any European Proprietor, Manager, Superintendent, Assistant or Recruiter of an Estate subscribing to the United Planters' Association of Southern India or to a District Planters' Association which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India or who is himself a subscriber to such an Association or any European Employee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, on payment of a minimum subscription of Rs. 10 per annum.
 - (b) Any estate, firm or company which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, or of a District Planters' Association which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, on payment of a minimum subscription of Rs. 25 per annum.
 - (c) Any District Planters' Association which is a member of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, on payment of a minimum subscription of Rs. 25 per annum.
2. A donor of Rs. 200 or any member subscribing Rs. 200 within a period not exceeding five years shall be considered a life member without payment of further subscriptions.
3. A donor of Rs. 1,000 either in one or more instalments shall be welcomed as a Patron and shall be considered a life member.
4. All applications for membership shall be sent to the Secretary in a form to be prescribed by the Committee, and the Committee shall have the right of rejecting any application for membership. Each application for membership shall be accompanied by a tender of the first year's subscription which shall be returned to the applicant in the event of his not being elected a member.
5. All subscriptions shall be due on 1st April each year and the Secretary of the Fund or Honorary Secretaries of District Planters' Associations shall collect the same.
6. All subscriptions of less than the minimum laid down in Rule 1 or received from persons not eligible for membership shall be treated as donations to the Fund.

II. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

7. Any member shall have the right of resigning his membership by giving notice in writing to the Secretary on or before the 31st March of any year provided that his subscription shall have been paid up to the 31st March of that year.
 8. Any member whose subscription is more than one year in arrears shall cease to be a member, provided that :
 - (a) all arrears of subscription owing by him at the time of his so ceasing to be a member shall remain due and owing by him to the Fund ;
 - (b) he shall be entitled at any time to resume his membership upon paying all arrears of subscription owing by him at the time of his so ceasing to be a member as aforesaid together with all sums which would have become due and payable by him as subscriptions had he continued to be a member of the Fund without interruption ; and
 - (c) he may be re-elected a member by the Committee upon such terms as to payment of arrears of subscriptions and/or of any other sum which would have become due and payable by him as subscription had he continued to be a member of the Fund without interruption as the Committee may in its discretion determine.
 9. Any member who by reason of change in his profession or employment would not be eligible for membership under Rule 1 but wishes to retain his membership shall submit an application to remain a member to the Secretary for the decision of the Committee of Management whose decision shall be final.
- The provisions of this rule shall not apply to Patrons and Life Members whose membership shall not terminate for any such reason.

III. MANAGEMENT

10. (i) The Fund shall be administered by a Committee of Management composed of the European members of the Executive Committee of the United Planters' Association of Southern India :

Provided that if the strength of the Committee so constituted is less than five, it shall be open to the General Meeting to appoint to the Committee such number of additional European members of the Fund as will bring the strength of the Committee to that figure.
- (ii) The Committee shall elect a Chairman from among its own members. The Secretary of the United Planters' Association of Southern India shall be the Secretary of the Fund.

11. The Committee shall have power :

(a) to arrange for General Meetings of members of the Fund and for its own meetings and to prescribe the procedure at all such meetings.

(b) to make, alter and repeal all such bye-laws as they may deem necessary or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Fund provided that no bye-laws shall be inconsistent with or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Memorandum of Association or the Rules of the Fund.

12. At any meeting of the Committee three members shall form a quorum.

13. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Fund shall be the Trustees of the Fund for the time being.

14. All the property of the Fund movable and immovable shall vest in the Trustees and all documents relating to and affecting the property of the Fund shall be taken and stand in the name of the Fund; all documents relating to the properties of the Fund shall be executed by the Trustees for and on behalf of the Fund.

15. The Fund shall sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary.

IV. BANKING AND INVESTMENTS

16. All subscriptions and moneys received shall be paid into a separate account with the Imperial Bank of India, and it shall require the joint signatures of the Trustees to draw any money from that account.

17. The moneys of the Fund shall be invested in any investments allowed by the law for the time being in force for the investments of Trust Funds, or they may be placed in fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank of India.

V. PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

18. The Committee shall consider all applications for assistance or relief made in the matter hereinafter prescribed and shall make such payment or payments (either to the applicant or to any other person or persons, company, firm or association on behalf of the applicant) as in its discretion it thinks proper effectively to afford assistance to the applicant within the terms and objects of the Fund.

19. All applications for assistance or relief or for renewal thereof shall be made in a form to be prescribed by the Committee and forwarded by the Secretary of the Planters' Association of the District in which the applicant last worked as a planter, to the Committee through the Secretary. Applications for assistance for employees of the United Planters' Association of Southern India shall be made direct to the Committee by the President of the United Planters' Association of Southern India.

20. No grants involving periodical payments shall in the first instance or in case of subsequent renewal be made for a longer period than 6 months. It shall, however, be competent for anyone in distress to apply for further relief, and the Committee may render such assistance if the Funds are sufficient to meet the deserving cases of first applicants. In no case shall first class passages be granted if second class are available.

21. The Committee of any District Planters' Association, being a member of the Fund, may give temporary relief in case of emergency to the extent of Rs. 100 in any one case provided that the applicant for relief is a member of the Fund or a dependent of a member.

22. European planters other than members of the Fund who are or have been members of the planting community of Southern India, and their dependents, may, in special cases, receive assistance from the Fund on making an application in the prescribed form provided that such application has the support of the Committee of the District Planters' Association forwarding the same. The Committee shall be the sole judge of the merits of each case and if the Committee is satisfied that any case is a proper one for assistance any payment made by it shall be made under the terms of Rule 18 of these Rules.

VI. GENERAL MEETINGS

23. A General Meeting shall be held annually at the same place and at about the same time as the Annual General Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India.

24. (i) The following persons shall be eligible to vote at any General Meeting of the Fund, either in person or through duly authorised representatives :—

(a) Members falling within the scope of rule 1 (a).

(b) Life Members referred to in rule 2 and Patrons referred to in rule 3 who are, or were, at the time of their enrolment, or at any time subsequently eligible for membership under the provisions of rule 1 (a).

(ii) The votes of members not eligible to vote under the foregoing sub-rule shall be exercised by the Chairman of the Fund in accordance with such directions as may be given to him by the Committee in this behalf.

(iii) Votes shall be calculated on the following scale :—

(a) To every member referred to in rule 1 (a) : One vote for every ten rupees subscription paid.

(b) To every member referred to in rule 1(b) and 1(c) : One vote for every twenty-five rupees subscription paid.

(c) To every Life Member : Two votes.

(d) To every Patron : Three votes.

'Subscription' in this sub-rule shall mean the total amount of a member's current year's subscription received at least 15 days before the date of the meeting.

VII. ALTERATION OF RULES

25. These rules may be added to, repealed, or amended by resolution at any General Meeting of which at least thirty days' notice shall have been given provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority of at least three-fifths of the total votes cast at the meeting.

APPENDIX I

THE U.P.A.S.I. BUYING AGENCY BYE-LAWS

- Constitution** I. The Agency is and shall be a Department of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, and as such its affairs shall be administered by the Executive Committee of that body and the Secretary shall be the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I.
- Objects** II. As an Agency to obtain concessions as regards prices charged for goods supplied or services rendered to its members in return for prompt payment and to encourage combination in placing buying orders.
- Membership** III. The following shall be entitled to membership on the payment of an annual subscription of Rs. 10 which may be collected by the Secretary forwarding the Membership Ticket by V. P. Post for Rs. 10-4-0 :—
All Members and employees of Members of the U.P.A.S.I., all Members of District Associations which are members of the U.P.A.S.I., all European employees of the U.P.A.S.I., and Clubs in Planting Districts.
IV. Membership shall be reckoned from the 1st of the month nearest to the date of receipt of application and all renewals shall date from the expiry of the previous ticket ; in no case shall any allowance be made for absence on leave or any ticket be issued for a period of less than twelve months. Any member whose subscription is one year in arrears shall cease to be a member.
V. A Member's ticket is not transferable and can only be used by the person, Estate, Firm or Club named therein for their own individual purchases ; but, in the case of a person, the ticket in his or her name may also cover purchases made by any actual family dependent and also purchases for any Estate of which that person is Manager, Superintendent, Assistant or Proprietor (otherwise than as a Director or Shareholder only) provided that Estate is owned by a member of the U.P.A.S.I. or of a District Association which is a member of the U.P.A.S.I.
VI. Members failing to settle their accounts with Firms in the list as provided for in Rule VII will be liable to have their names removed from the list of members and cease to be entitled to any of the benefits obtained by the Agency.
- Liability** VII. The names of Firms, Companies and Persons who agree to grant special terms to Members of the Agency shall be entered in a list kept for that purpose which shall from time to time be circulated to all Members ; and such Firms, Companies and Persons shall be furnished periodically with the Agency list of members.
VIII. The Agency will not be responsible in any way for the action of its members or of the Firms, Companies, and others granting special terms.
- Profits** IX. Any balance being a profit at the end of a year shall be credited to the Southern India Planters' Benevolent Fund.
X. In no case shall the Secretary act as the agent of a member in any business connected with the Agency.

APPENDIX II

U.P.A.S.I. LABOUR BYE-LAWS

- I. The following Labour Bye-Laws shall be binding on all members of the U.P.A.S.I., and on their servants and Agents and no local rule of any District Association shall be repugnant to these Bye-Laws.
- II. All disputes between members who are both subscribers to the Labour Department shall be submitted to that Department for adjudication under its own Bye-Laws.
All disputes between members who are both members of the same District Planters' Association shall be submitted to that District Association for adjudication under its own local Rules.
- III. All disputes, complaints or other cases that arise between members who are not covered by Bye-Law II above shall be submitted to the Executive Committee through the Secretary, U.P.A.S.I., for adjudication.
- IV. All claims under written contract, Reports, Pronotes, and Bonds legally executed shall have priority over those made under verbal agreements.
- V. No Labour Supplier, while still under agreement with or in debt to a member, shall be given an *open* letter or 'Tundu' giving him permission to accept employment or advance for himself or his coolies elsewhere.
- VI. No member shall offer a commission, bribe or special inducement of any sort to an agent of the U.P.A.S.I. Labour Department, for any purpose whatsoever.
- VII. No member other than a Coffee Member shall raise the pay of coolies without giving two months' notice of his intention to the Secretary of the U.P.A.S.I., for circulation to other members.
- VIII. Any member, or a Labour Supplier of a member, who employs or advances or enters into contract with any other Labour Supplier, Sub-Supplier or Labourer who is proved to be indebted to or under contract with any other member or his Labour Supplier or Sub-Supplier, shall, on demand, either cease to employ him forthwith or pay up the debt as proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee, if the member with the prior claim is willing to accept it ; provided, in the case of Labourers only, no claim shall be admitted if the claim is legally time-barred.
- IX. Bye-Law No. VIII shall not be enforceable if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee that the former employer has done anything to invalidate the contract.
- X. Any member wishing to engage a private Labour Agent shall not employ an ex-employee of the Labour Department without the written consent of the Director.
- XI. In the event of a breach of the provisions of these Bye-Laws, the Executive Committee are empowered to take such action as they may consider advisable.
- XII. No member or person recruiting on his behalf shall recruit any labour in a planting district other than that in which is situated the estate for which such labour is being recruited unless previous written permission has been granted through the Director of the Labour Department by the Association of the planting district in which it is proposed to recruit.

List of Members of the United Planters' Association of Southern India
as on 31st December 1946

I. ORDINARY MEMBERS

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Abdul Rahman Khan, Khan Bahadur A., M. L. C...	..	400	..	..
Ahmed Ali & Co.	320	..	..	..
Aird, J. .. .. .	..	217	..	..
Aiyadorai, T. M.	61	..	..	..
Alageswar Estates, Ltd.	471	381	..	8
Alexander, T. P. M. & Sir James Doak.. .. .	..	..	..	1,167
Alikery Maistry & Nagammal	20	10	..	..
Amalgamated Tea Estates, Ltd.	2,672	..	..	452
Amalgamated Coffee Estates, Ltd. .. .. .	..	1,382	..	525
Anamallai Tea Estates, Ltd... .. .	1,688	..	..	..
Andia Pillai, T. C. .. .. .	..	..	..	29
Anglo-American Direct Tea Trading Co., Ltd.	6,454	572	..	1,302
Anoor Estates, Ltd. .. .. .	..	350	..	..
Appachu, C. K. .. .. .	..	50	..	..
Appiah, B. M. .. .. .	..	20	..	..
Appaiya, K. P. .. .. .	..	100	..	..
Appiah, M. P. .. .. .	..	30	..	..
Ari Gowder, Rao Bahadur H. B.	21	..	..	..
Arthala Tea Estates Ltd.	430	..	..	..
Arunachalam Chettiar, O.A.Pr.M.	220	217	2	..
Asher, W. .. .. .	..	56	..	..
Aspinwall & Co., Ltd. .. .. .	..	290	..	..
Athrey, N. B. .. .. .	..	20	..	..
Balanoor Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd.	583	670	179	..
Ball, Major E. P. .. .. .	..	182	..	..
Ball, Mrs. M. D. .. .. .	..	261	..	..
Balmadies Plantations, Ltd. .. .. .	..	290	..	..
Barton Wright, R. & G. Barton Wright.. .. .	..	..	80	..
Basappa, D. .. .. .	..	230	..	6
Basettappa, J. .. .. .	..	78	..	..
Be Be Rubber Estates, Ltd.	75	5	694	..
Belliappa, K. M. .. .. .	..	11	..	..
Bella Gowder, J. M.	4	9	..	..
Bella Gowder, J. N.	9	26	..	..
Bella Gowder, N.	20	10	..	..
Bellie Gowder, M.	18	14	..	..
Bellie Gowder, Dr. Y. B.	8	1	..	..
Bhadra Valley Estates, Ltd.	209	360	..	..
Bhavani Tea & Produce Co., Ltd.	771	543	242	52
Biccode Estates, Ltd. .. .. .	..	295	..	..
Bissett, F.	465	..	..	..
Bithiya Gowder, B. K. .. .. .	..	50	..	..
Blue Mountain Estates, Ltd.	1,121	712	30	..
Bokkai Gowder, K.	163	..	..	..
Bombay-Burmah Plantations, Ltd.	502	..	..	..
	496	..	..	..
	..	250	..	..
Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation, Ltd.	4,850	..	..	1,623
	573	..	..	595
Bower, E. M. .. .. .	..	110	..	5
Bower, W. H.	25	..	..	..
Brice, S., F. C. Scott, Mrs. Scott .. .. .	..	30	..	270
Brooke, Mrs. .. .. .	..	264	..	..
	..	48	..	..
Brooke, Mrs. & Others .. .. .	..	134	..	..
Brunner, C., Mrs. .. .. .	..	90	..	..
Carried forward	22,249	8,768	1,227	6,034

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ..	22,249	8,768	1,227	6,034
Cameron, Mrs. E. G. & Others ..	352	..	..	..
Cameron, H. S. ..	5	2	..	..
Carey, Comdr. H. F. ..	..	110	..	..
Catholic Mission, Salem ..	..	125	..	..
Ceylon Land & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	1,442	126	..	..
Chacko, Mrs. M. A. ..	..	..	125	..
Chacko, Syriac, Esq. ..	38	12	..	..
Chandramallai Estates, Ltd. ..	212	253	..	75
Chattukutty Nair, T. V. ..	10	25	..	3
Chembara Peak Estates, Ltd. ..	1,336	320	..	..
Chengappa, Diwan Bahadur, K. M. ..	..	70	..	50
Cherian, P. V. ..	7	55	..	..
Chevana Writer & Sons, B. ..	13	9	..	..
Clarke, E. Sydenham ..	384	..	..	..
Chickanna, D. ..	..	169	..	..
Clay, A. P. ..	1	..	..	..
Cochin Malabar Estates, Ltd. ..	..	..	4,387	..
Cochin Plantations, Ltd. ..	48	110	68	300
Consolidated Coffee Estates (1943) Ltd. ..	..	4,988	..	2
Coonoor Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ..	265	..	..	93
Coorg Cinchona Estates ..	..	35	..	71
Coorg Estates, Ltd. ..	..	278	..	..
Coorg Plantations, Ltd. ..	..	240	..	10
Coorg Tea Co., Ltd. ..	362	..	..	..
Cowcoody Estates, Ltd. ..	..	549	..	68
Craig, Lt.-Col. H. T. ..	..	487	..	..
Crawford, C. S. & Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford ..	..	783	..	..
Crawford, W. L. & Mrs. Hardman ..	..	135	..	..
Crawford, C. S., Lt.-Col. Crawford and G. V. R. Frend ..	..	470	..	..
D. Dasappa ..	..	32	..	..
D'Roza, A. M. H. ..	..	72	..	..
D'Souza, M. ..	..	77	..	60
D. S. Wala Tea & Rubber Estates, Ltd. ..	11	..	9	..
Dalton, T. L. & C. S. Iron ..	..	400	..	..
Dasappa, D. V. ..	..	160	..	..
Dastur, Miss B. M. ..	45	4	..	..
Davis, M. P. ..	..	350	..	..
Deane Drummond, Lt.-Col. J. D. ..	329	181	..	..
Davashola (Nilgiri) Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ..	345	..	..	..
Davershola Tea Co., Ltd. ..	2,600	85	..	..
Devasahayam, D. M. ..	71	..	..	12
Deenadayalan, W. P. A. S. ..	..	456	..	..
Dennis, S. H. & Others ..	..	160	..	40
Dodlukonda Estates, Ltd. ..	..	194	..	..
Eariah, L. ..	34	5	..	..
Elk Hill Coffee Estates, Ltd. ..	..	1,020	..	..
Emerald Valley Estates, Ltd. ..	193	..	..	..
The English & S. J. C. W. S. Ltd. ..	9,741	..	460	650
Estate & Agency Co., Ltd. ..	3,176	..	..	13
Fennel, E. A. ..	..	350	..	..
Fennel, E. E. ..	214	50	..	..
Fringford Estates, Ltd. ..	490	..	..	150
Fox, F. G. ..	..	249	..	..
Gangaday, B. N. ..	4	3	..	..
Gerrard, E. F. H. ..	131	..	..	..
Gilby, E. H. ..	..	50	..	..
Gilby, R. A. ..	..	100	..	..
Glenburn Estates, Ltd. ..	..	160	290	..
Gnanasiromani, P. T. ..	39	..	..	..
Carried forward ..	44,147	22,277	6,566	7,631

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ..	44,147	22,277	6,566	7,631
Godfrey, C. H. ..	..	330	..	40
Gritharilall Son & Co., S. ..	..	80	..	..
Herbert Gibbon ..	..	..	..	..
Hajamohideen Rowther ..	40	..	..	..
Haileyburia Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	322	..	35	60
Hawke, L. A. ..	634	..	..	..
Highland Produce Co., Ltd. ..	251	176	49	..
Hight, S. M. (Executors of) ..	893	..	..	..
Hill, A. L. ..	..	930	..	..
Hill, Mrs. E. (Trustees of) ..	..	250	..	5
Holalu Estates, Ltd. ..	375	10	..	..
Horoer Syndicate, Ltd. ..	262	36	..	..
Humphreys, Mrs. C. L. J. ..	..	133	..	..
Hunnybun, C. H. ..	..	160	..	..
Hunt, St. John ..	..	80	..	..
Hunt, E. P. ..	103	..	..	..
Hormese Tharakan & Bros. ..	..	598	..	20
..	..	220	..	15
..	..	..	220	350
Iyah, N. S. ..	70	..	..	..
Jacob, N. M. ..	4	4	7	..
Jogiah, N. ..	10	4	..	..
Joghee Maistry & Sons. ..	15	5	..	..
Joghi, B. N. ..	12	2	..	..
Joseph, C. S. ..	11	..	4	135
Kempiah, K. S. ..	200	..	..	..
Kesinvurthy Estates, Ltd. ..	..	226	..	..
Kada Gowder, M. S. ..	30	25	..	..
Kalasa Tea & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	539	107	..	20
Kalla Gowder, J. ..	12	3	..	..
Kalliah, H. ..	18	..	..	..
Kalpetta Estates, Ltd. ..	906	92	1,418	72
Ranan Devan Hills Produce Co., Ltd. ..	26,589	..	..	..
Karimtharuvu Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	469	..	..	..
Karriekolie Estates Co., Ltd. ..	..	211	..	9
Katary Veerasaiva Co., Ltd. ..	38	10	..	..
Kaveriappa, B. A. ..	..	110	..	..
Kay, Miss A. M. ..	14	40	..	..
Kerala Calicut Estates, Ltd. ..	..	..	4,484	..
Kochuvareed, T. V. ..	233	4	1,339	..
Koderi Plantations, Ltd. ..	..	165	..	..
Koorghully Coffee Estates, Ltd. ..	..	297	..	..
Kottagudi Plantations, Ltd. ..	215	..	..	..
Krishna Iyer, N., & V. Neelakanta Iyer ..	690	..	..	..
Krishna Iyer, B. K. ..	..	100	..	..
Kurchermala Plantations, Ltd. ..	118	20	..	270
Kushallappa, K. M. ..	..	90	..	..
Kuttanaad Cardamoms, Ltd. ..	..	250	200	300
Kuttanaad Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	25	..	600	300
Kylasam Pillai, T. A. ..	..	90	..	..
Kurup, K. K. ..	..	75	..	..
Kerala Plantations, Ltd. ..	..	15	160	12
..	..	..	..	250
Lake, R. C. ..	..	160	..	..
Lechler, Mrs. V. A. ..	..	75	..	..
Leslie, A. W. ..	444	..	..	53
Leela, Mrs. V. C. ..	..	150	..	..
Linga Gowder, B. K. ..	35	84	..	..
Linga Gowder, M. S. ..	33	22	..	..
Lingapur Estates, Ltd. ..	..	217	..	..
Lingiah, K. N. ..	25	2	..	..
Lingiah, M. ..	12	8	..	..
Carried forward ..	79,747	27,943	15,082	9,542

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ..	77,794	27,943	15,082	9,542
Lingiah, N. ..	100	75	..	..
Lingiah, P. ..	19	..	..	..
Luard, R. E. L. ..	..	90	..	..
Luiz, A. W. P. ..	52	..	220	25
Leach Burton, Mrs. I. M. H. ..	..	216	..	..
Morgan, J. S. H. ..	..	340	..	..
Macpherson, Lt.-Col. D. I. ..	..	342	..	..
Macqueen, R. B. ..	..	248	..	..
Madappa, N. P. ..	..	30	..	..
Madras Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	689	..	..	..
Malabar Agricultural Co. ..	645	250	25	400
Malabar Industrial Co. ..	5	50	655	..
Malayalam Plantations, Ltd. ..	21,174	..	19,880	286
Malliah, H. J. ...	5	5	..	..
Manjanatha Setty, M. L. ..	..	50	..	..
Manjanatha Murthy, N. S. ..	..	87	..	..
Mandanna, Rao Bahadur M. S. ..	..	50	..	..
Mangles Brothers Coorg Coffee Estates, Ltd. ..	..	1,319	..	..
Manalur Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	124	400	..
Manar Estates, Ltd. ..	36	229	..	..
Mannarghat Rubber Estates, Ltd. ..	..	..	368	225
Matha Gowder, J. ..	16	12	..	..
Matha Gowder, S. ..	..	15	..	..
Matha Gowder, K. A. ..	11	..	..	..
Matha Maistry & Co., B. ..	55	106	..	..
Mathew, K. M. ..	..	24	18	10
Mathew, M. G. ..	..	40	..	25
Mathew, V. A. ..	..	..	65	..
Mathai, V. J. ..	..	..	10	..
M. M. Mathya Lingam ..	10	6	..	..
Mercara Rubbers, Ltd. ..	..	..	872	..
Mitchell, H. ..	36	..	..	..
Mitchell, D. V. ..	..	253	..	..
Midland Rubber & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	1,548	..	2,332	..
Mlamallay Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	508	..	..	..
Mockett, Brooke (Executors of) ..	..	901 464 225 110	..	9
Moore, R. J. A. ..	793	6	4	..
Morcha Gowder, S. K. ..	2	18	..	..
Morgan, Mrs. S. F., & Others ..	..	360	..	..
Morgan Coffee Co., Ltd. ..	..	500 550	..	8
Morris, A. E. C. ..	..	244	..	2
Morris, C. W. G. ..	..	120	..	..
Morris, R. C. ..	2	266	..	32
Mulla Singh, Dr. S. ..	61	..	..	..
Murphy Estates, Ltd. ..	468	..	532	1,157
Majeed Khan, A. ..	..	200	..	..
Naduar Estates, Ltd. ..	448	396	..	93
Nandhie Gowder, B. K. ..	70	40	..	..
Nanjiah, B. ..	15	3	..	..
Nanthee, M. ..	20	6	..	..
Narasimhamurthi, K. ..	..	13	..	..
Nanjappa, P. A. ..	..	120	..	..
Nanjundiah, B. ..	16	3	..	..
Narai Gowder, K. ..	10	10	..	..
Narayana Setty, D. ..	..	203	..	..
Neelamalai Tea and Coffee Estates, Ltd. ..	1,636	264	..	..
Nelliampathy Tea and Produce Co., Ltd. ..	577	269	173	324
Nilgiri Neergundi Estates Co., Ltd. ..	329	622	..	..
Nilambur Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	937	..
Carried forward ..	1,07,150	37,817	41,573	12,138

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ..	1,67,150	37,817	41,573	12,138
New Glen Morgan Estates, Ltd. ..	361	..	..	..
Ninan & Sons, A. P. ..	167	..	..	{ 40 30
Nonsuch Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	804	2	..	..
Norman, E. F. M. ..	..	..	249	..
Nilgiri Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	308	177	..	..
Oliver, G. R., & Others ..	..	133	..	..
Oliver, L. C. ..	..	195	..	..
Oomrigar, S.O., & Others ..	99	..	..	..
O'Sullivan, B. D. ..	..	20	..	..
Pais Sylvester ..	..	50	..	..
Pambadampara Estates, Ltd. ..	..	..	..	1,194
Perumal, B. ..	160	60	..	..
Pareekanni Travancore Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	665	..
P. Kurian John ..	261	..	..	..
Parkside (Neilgherry Hills) Estates, Ltd. ..	631	..	..	..
Parukutty Nethiyaramma. ..	106	..	..	..
Passmore, Mrs. ..	..	107	..	..
Patel, N. K. ..	127	..	..	..
Patrakola Tea Co., Ltd. ..	648	..	..	..
Peermade Tea Co., Ltd. ..	1,575	..	..	..
Periakaramalai Tea & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	1,943	..	..	29
Periyar Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	892	..
Periyaswami Nadar, M. S. ..	..	608	..	241
Poonmudi Tea & Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	2,434	55	687	..
Porter Hall & Co. ..	..	440	..	..
..	..	500	..	..
..	..	180	..	..
Pothan Joseph & Sons ..	..	..	145	..
Pullangode Rubber & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	1,607	..
Pullikanam Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	590	..	..	75
Punja, P. R. T. ..	..	72	..	..
..	..	..	..	70
Puthuthotam Estates (1943) Ltd. ..	..	560	..	140
..	..	227	..	833
..	..	..	..	50
Puttappa Setty, N. V. N. ..	..	12	..	..
Rahm, C. ..	..	155	..	..
.., W. (Executors of) ..	..	180	..	..
Rajatt, C. ..	..	120	..	..
Rajan, C. P. ..	41	21	..	..
Raju Bettan, B. ..	33	6	..	..
Raju, N. K. ..	28	2	..	..
Rajagiri Rubber & Produce Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	2,456	..
Rajagopalan, Capt. R. ..	15	13	..	..
Rama Gowder, K. K. ..	..	20	..	..
Ramanan, Major C. S. V. ..	20	80	..	..
Rangiah Gowder, K. ..	123	..	..	..
Ratnavale, S. ..	..	..	..	130
Rev. Mother Superior of Providence House ..	..	40	..	..
Robinson, Miss J. ..	..	50	..	..
Roissier, R. P. ..	435	..	..	..
Roman Catholic Mission of Pondicherry ..	..	464	..	..
Ryle, C. D. ..	..	165	..	..
Rajawadiar, H. M. ..	..	10	..	30
Rama Rao, K. M. ..	..	35	..	2
Sadasivam Pillai, A. ..	4	46	..	..
Sakkamma, D., & D. Siddanna Bros. ..	..	1,093	..	21
Sampaje Rubber Co. ..	..	..	433	..
Sankaran, K. R. ..	..	30	8	140
Savamalai Estates, Ltd. ..	..	165	..	317
Seshiah, K. T. ..	..	70	..	..
Shambayya, N. S. ..	..	50	..	..
Carried forward ..	1,18,063	44,030	48,715	15,480

Name of Member	Area under cultivation			
	Tea	Coffee	Rubber	Minor Products
Brought forward ..	1,18,063	44,030	48,715	15,480
Sherneilly Rubber & Cardamom Estates, Ltd. ..	..	..	208	21
Seth Sivalall Nathlall & Co... ..	..	179	..	..
Shevaroy Estates, Ltd. ..	158	812	30	..
Short Brothers, Ltd. ..	..	375	..	..
Short, C. K. ..	..	106	..	..
Simcock, E. W. ..	..	175	..	..
Simpson, C. H. ..	96	20	5	10
Sogathorai Nilgiri Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	27	30	..	..
Southern India Tea Estates Co. Ltd. ..	2,465	..	..	..
South Travancore Plantations, Ltd. ..	543	..	..	..
Spain, Lt.-Col. G. A. R. ..	253	27	..	..
Stagbrook Rubber & Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	1,083	..	1,006	..
Stanmore (Anamallais) Estates, Ltd. ..	3,624	247	..	398
Stanes & Co., Ltd., T. ..	235	235	..	..
Stewart, Mrs. M. C. ..	..	60	..	..
Stisted, J. L. H. ..	253	23	..	..
Subramanian, G. S. ..	12	..	..	..
Supreme Industries, Ltd. ..	..	..	405	..
Swaminatha Iyer, A. ..	24	..	..	..
Talayar Tea Co., Ltd. ..	1,018	719	..	..
Tea Estates India, Ltd. ..	2,045	556	..	300
Teekoy Rubber (India), Ltd. ..	..	..	1,395	..
Thatha Maistry, N. ..	65	..	..	..
Thiashola Tea Co., Ltd. ..	1,536	100	..	..
Thirumbadi Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	888	..
Thirumalachar, H. ..	..	95	..	..
Thimaiah, A. C. ..	..	327	..	38
Thomas, K. J. ..	..	..	255	..
Thomas, M. A. ..	45	25	..	30
Thutta Gowder, T. M. ..	11	10	..	..
Tipping, Mrs. K. ..	..	143	..	..
Travancore Rubber & Tea Co., Ltd. ..	1,878	..	3,464	..
Travancore Tea Estates Co., Ltd. ..	6,137	..	..	..
Travers Drapes, Mrs. N. A. ..	..	150	..	8
Tropical Plantations, Ltd. ..	434	..	..	..
Twyford & Ashely Estates, Ltd. ..	1,291	..	..	..
Umayambiga Plantations, Ltd. ..	99	232	..	..
United Coffee Supply Co., Ltd. ..	14	224	..	..
United Nilgiri Tea Estates, Ltd. ..	1,059	..	..	..
Vaghamon (Travancore) Co., Ltd. ..	679	..	..	..
Vaikundam Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	728	..
Vayittri Plantations, Ltd. ..	62	150	..	400
Vellimalai Rubber Co., Ltd. ..	..	..	839	..
Vellamallai Tea Co., Ltd. ..	1,063	..	..	..
Vellarmalai Plantations, Ltd. ..	..	50	..	125
Vernede, J. B. ..	105	..	..	..
Vernede, Mrs. O. M. ..	280	..	..	..
Viswanath, B. K. ..	6	1	..	..
Volkart Brothers ..	..	863	..	..
Walsh, H. N. F. ..	250	120	..	..
Walter Jackson & Co. ..	..	..	100	..
Wapshare, G. ..	..	13	..	..
Wapshare, R. H. ..	338	12	..	..
Waterfall Estates, Ltd. ..	891	176	..	233
Watson, J. D. ..	..	152	..	..
Westmoreland Wood, R. N. ..	34	..	..	..
White, G. P. ..	..	326	..	..
Woodbriar Estates, Ltd. ..	314	3	..	..
Woodcote Estates, Ltd. ..	87	..	..	..
Yusuf Ali Khan, Esq. ..	..	105	..	..
Total ..	1,46,577	50,871	58,038	17,043



II. ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Anamallais Planters' Association.
Association of Planters of Travancore.
Central Travancore Planters' Association.
Coorg Planters' Association.
Indian Planters' Association, Mysore.
Kanan Devan Planters' Association.
Malabar Planters' Association.
Mundakayam Planters' Association.

Mysore Planters' Association.
Nelliampathy Planters' Association.
Nilgiri Planters' Association.
Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association.
Shevaroy Planters' Association.
South Travancore Planters' Association.
Wynaad Planters' Association.
Indian Planters' Association, Coorg.

III. FIRM MEMBERS

Messrs. Anamallais Ropeway Co., Ltd.
" Anupura Coffee Works Co., Ltd.
" Aspinwall & Co., Ltd.
" Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation
Ltd.
" Brooke Bond India Ltd.
" Burmah-Shell Oil Storage & Distributing
Co. of India Ltd.
" Coorg & Mysore Coffee Co. (1937) Ltd.
" Darragh Smail & Co., Ltd.
" English and Scottish Joint Co-operative
Wholesale Society Ltd.
" Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd.
" Hunsur Works Ltd.
" Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd.

Messrs. Kil-Kundah Tea Manufacturing Co.
" Mysore Fertiliser Co.
" Parry & Co., Ltd.
" Paterson & Co., Ltd.
" Peirce Leslie & Co., Ltd.
" Planters Co., Ltd.
" Scientific Fertiliser Co., Ltd.
" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" Southern India Plantations Agency Ltd.
" Spencer & Co., Ltd.
" Stanes & Co., Ltd., T.
" Tea Estates India Ltd.
" Thomas & Co., Ltd., A. V.
" Volkart Brothers.
" Walker & Greig Ltd.

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H.S.